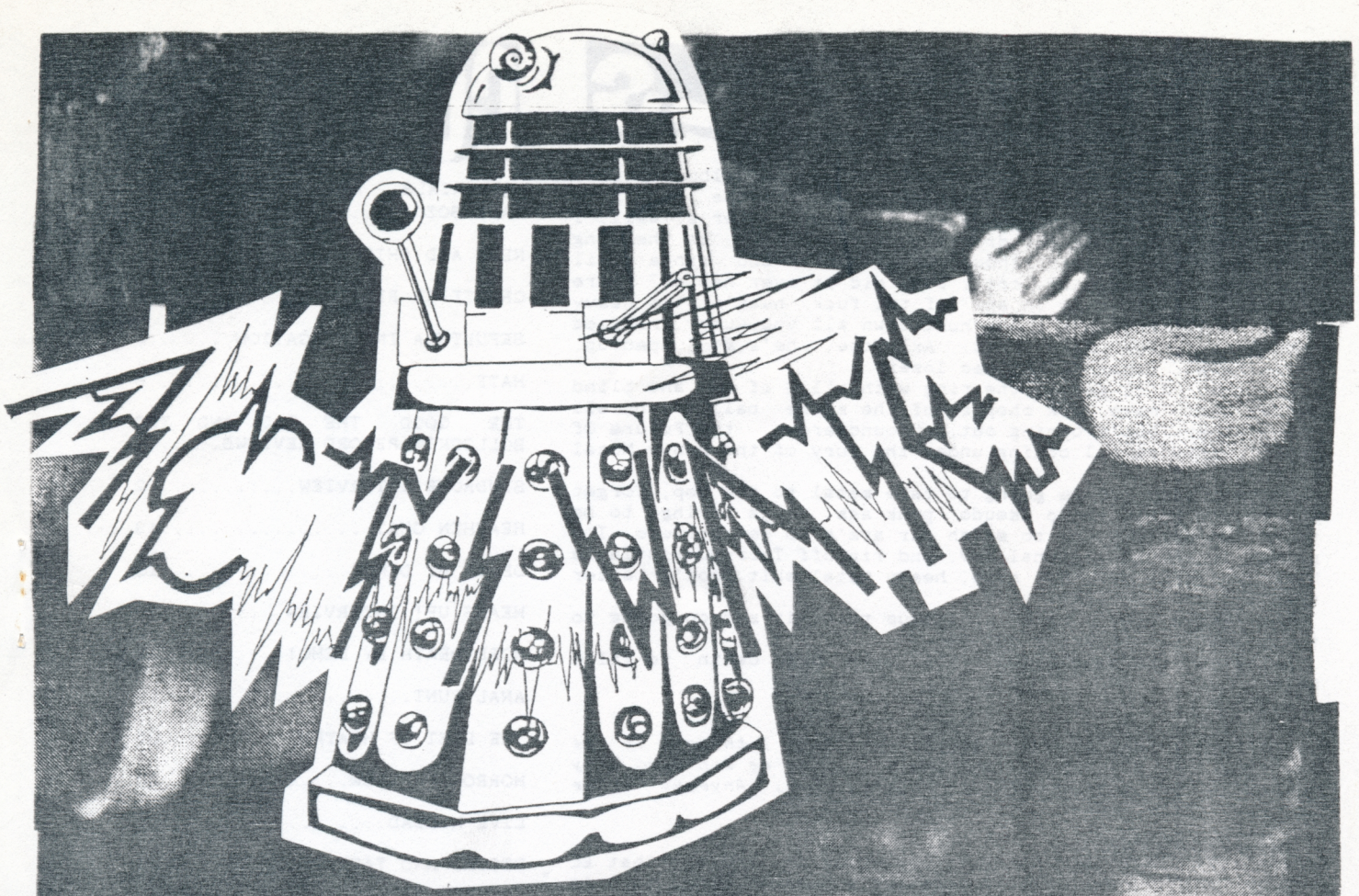

SEPULTURA
HEATHEN
HEADS UP!
ANAL CUNT
SINDROME

MY DYING BRIDE, THE REIGN, GOMORRAH, POISON IDEA, GWAR, HORROR, CRUCIFIER, PLUS! WIN SOME RECORDS!!

EDITORIALS

HEAVY METAL KILLER

Two year's wait and Guns N Roses release two album's, both dogshit, and Axl Rose is screaming get in the ring from behind his mountain of body guard's and lawyer's. Well, I might be a fat useless drop out but I'll get in the ring with the whiney voiced schmuck any day.. and Vince Neil want's to take him on, cool, but did it ever happen? Where were they? I'll take on any of the fuck head's, the heavy metal kill man, he's gonna hunt down all you wussy, no good lame assed rock star liars. Axl Rose, he's a jumped up, false metal, woman hating sad loser.

Nirvana. I'll get in the ring with all 3 of 'em and blind folded too, make pork chop's of the slime ball's, and all these other bum's coming out,,,"Soundgarden, the Future Of Metal", they're all coming under the fury of the Heavy Metal Killer!!

We're a team, we're going to take metal to the top, forget all the no hope retro pseudo punk ass rings trying to be tough, we ain't going to slash our arm's to get noticed, I'm going to get on national T.V. and rip off Terry Christian's head and shit down his neck, heavy metal shit look's better than skinny manchester ugly.

The world need's ugly, obnoxious rock, it's soon going to taste what it's missing out on.

Bring on the revolution, kill ugly pop, death to false metal.

H.M.K.M.

Activate's been away for quite some time, I thought it was over but like all the nasty thing's in life we won't go away unless you shoot them with a fucking gun. Anyway, we're back,and we're better.

Ruthless Editorial

The most important thing to remember in life is that EC comics are the main staple diet for a heathly mind. Next is Activate, lucky you for having purchased such a wonderous literary masterpiece. If after having read this greatness if you want to send more money as a donation then please do, if on the other hand you want a refund then forget it, 'cos we don't care.

Any views, thoughts even critisms for us to ignore or laff at and ultimately throw in the bin please send to :54 CARLETON ROAD, PONTEFRACT, WEST YORKSHIRE. WF8 3NF. Send any contributions to the same address, the good may be used, the bad will be sent back and the ugly will be burnt.

So enjoy fiends and I will meat you in the next tissue after three months moons have pussed.

Zine info: Activate 14 was put together over the latter part of 1991 and the first few months of 1992, it's taken so long because we've had to contact band's, buy record's etc. and not because we're incredibley lazy as some bastards might say. The next issue of Activate should jump up and smash you in the face before you know it, but please any label's, band's, whatever please help us out by contacting us and sending stuff in for review.

Thanks to Roadrunner, Vinyl Solution and Nuclear Blast for all the record's and all the band's for helping us out with review stuff.

Massive apoligises to C.Oldham for not including the story, it will appear next issue.

RUTHLESS TOP TEN (in no particular order)

Captain Beefheart
Gwar
Slayer
Foetus
Metallica
Einsturzende Neubauten
Heads Up!
Sepultura
Aerosmith
Poison Idea

NICK'S TOP TEN:

1. METALLICA:METALLICA
2. FOUR HORSEMEN:"Nobody Said It Was Easy" L.P.
3. ENTOMBED:"Clandestine"
4. SLAYER:"Decade Of Aggression" CD
5. MASTER:"And On The 7th Day God Created Master" LP
6. HORROR:"Unreleased tape"
7. MOTLEY CRUE:"Dr. Feelgood" LP
8. ACCEPT:"Metal Heart" LP
9. SEPULTURA:"Arise" LP
10. SPACE MONSTERS:"Horrific Undead Skeletons"

ACTIVATE FANZINE, c/o NICK and RUTHLESS,54 CARLETON RD, PONTEFRACT, W.YORKS, WF8 3NF, U.K.

Please note this is just a contact address, not an office, shop or hotel. We don't even live there so don't turn up!!!

Anyone interested in distributing Activate, please get in touch. Advertising can be worked out on a one to one basis, no basic rate of charge, it all depends on what mood we're in.

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WIN FREE RECORDS!!!!

We've got copies of, 1. CANCER:"Death Shall Rise" LP, COUNT RAVEN:"Storm Warning" LP and the incredibley shite Senseless Things "Everbody's Gone" CD to give away, here's how to win.

CANCER: Who is the worst person in metal, why and what ya gonna do about it?

COUNT RAVEN: In no more, and no less than 50 word's why should we send you this rather than burn it.

SENSELESS THINGS: Tell us what youre going to do with this to destroy it and we'll send you it, then we want the pictures of you doing it to print next issue!!

NEWS AND SHIT

Basically we want to use this space for news on bands, labels, zines, distro's etc. but obviously we've not been out for 2 years and cant be arsed to catch up, but from now on that's what this section is for, so write to us and tell us your interesting news.

If you want to buy loads of death, thrash, etc. demo's, records or shirts there's a really good range at DISSEMINATION DISTRIBUTION, it's run really well and offers stuff from all over the world at reasonable prices. Write for a list with an S.A.E. to: Dissemination, c/o 2 Eynon Mews, Christchurch Rd, Ringwood, Hampshire. BH24 1DR. If you want anything selling, he's your man too.

New York grindcore band Porphyria have thier first demo available. "Dreamer of Darkness" costs $5:00 to Eddie Torres, 310 West 19th St., NEW YORK, NY 10011, U.S.A.

Also in that area, New York's self proclaimed "heaviest female thrash band" Bedlam have split up. Drummer Jackie Lewis with bassist and guitarist are forming a new band, yet un named. They plan on adding a second guitarist and singer soon and releasing a demo around July time. Anyone really eager can contact them through: Jackie Lewis, 32 Everett St, New Britain, CT, o6052, U.S.A.

MASTER have now released their second LP, if you think you know anything about death metal, buy it coz they're the godfathers. It's on Nuclear Blast Records who have also recently released Benediction, Pungent Stench and a compilation of Nuclear Blast bands called "Death.. is Just the Begining".(all reviewed next ish)

Healm's Deep have replaced the Paul on their critically acclaimed (by us) demo, "Anthem For A doomed Youth" with another Paul, this time Paul Miles.

MORTIFIED have a new tape out (see next ish for review). It's called "Grog" and costs £2. See review in "Death By Demo" for address.

Decadence Within have a new single out, "Pay Off Time", their first vinyl since "Soulwund". It's £2:50 from First Strike, 39 - 41 Hallgate, Wigan, Lancs, WN1 1LR.

The band are now looking to play as many gigs as possible, and not with pissy punk bands either!!

Red Warning Distro sell loads of things really cheap and also produce a pretty neat zine called "Bleak Horizons", if you're interested in either send an SAE to; R.W.D., 28 Mount Pleasant Rd, Wallasey, Merseyside, 145 SEW.

A Secret Devil publishers have still got some copies of the zine "Clowns Killing People" available, as well as various booklets and tapes.The zine costs 35p plus an SAE to A Secret Devil, Box 32, 52 Call Lane, LEEDS, LS6 1DZ.

Poison Idea have a new album out, "Blank Blackout Vacant" on Vinyl Solution, they're supposed to be touring this spring too, so watch out for that.

The legend of Venom lives on!! The name's changed but our great lord Cronos can't hide behind that Conrad Lant guise for too long! The band Cronos have their second L.P. out now, it's called "Rock n Roll Disease" (is this the same man who penned "Acid Queen", "Welcome To Hell" and "Manitou"?) and is out on Neat Records (or one of their subsiduaries.

CRUCIFIER:"Festival of Death" demo 5/5

Crucifier are a three piece death metal band from the U.S., they are Jeff Riddle on drums, Brian Ronquiest on guitars/backing vocals and Steve Snyder (no relation) on bass/backing vocals. It's a very professional demo, both production and music wise.

The lyrics as well as including the usual gore ridden, and blood soaked mutilated corpses, also have some indepth thoughts in such tracks as "Atheist", "Mindrape" and "Flowers".

The sound is clear, consise and very heavy. Atmospheric effects such as howling wind fit well into the tape and add to the overall flavour. For a three piece their sound is as full and as complete as many four piece death metal acts. The drumming is at times slow and deliberate, giving strength and purpose to the tempo, it then speeds up to some pretty niffty thrashy drumming. The guitar is thick and tight with much ace riffing, somehow Brian Ronquest manages to combine a rhythm and lead guitar sound as though both are present, pretty amazing stuff. The bass although typically death adds new dimension to Crucifier with an almost funky/jazzy bassline at times. The vocals are rough and accusing, and strong enough to compliment the music and at the same time not drowning it out.

This is a tight and as I said before very professional sounding demo. The band as well as being extremly technically proficiant have the necessary energy and passion that makes some music great. A tape most definately worth getting hold of, the address is: CRUCIFIER,3953 Jefferson Davis Highway, Stafford, VA. 22554 U.S.A.(RUTHLESS)

SEPULTURA

SEPULTURA don't need an intro, but what the hell there's never enough said about them as far as Activate is concerned.
Riding high on the sucess of their superb album "Arise" Sepultura toured the U.K. in June and we met up with Paulo Jr. in the dressing rooms of the Rock City in Nottingham, it was the first live interview we'd ever done. Anyhow's, here we go with the god of all love and cool, Paulo Jr.....

WHEN DID YOU ARRIVE HERE?
Here? Today at..er..noon?
RIGHT..HAVE YOU TOURED EUROPE FIRST?
This year,..yeah,oh yeah, this tour is just finishing, this is one of the last shows, but we played Europe first yes.
HOW DID IT GO?
The tour, real good, whoah yeah, real good.
DID THE PUBLIC LIKE YOU? DID THEY LOVE YOU?
I think so!!!
HOW DID THE ALBUM GO? YOU RECORDED IN FLORIDA YEAH? ARE YOU PLEASED WITH IT?
Yeah, oh yeah, we had more time to do this album, and we had better conditions too, not like on "Beneath The Remains", this time we had the right amount of time to record, the right amount of time to mix and it's much better because we didn't have to worry about time, just to keep going until all the things we wanted to do were complete.
DO YOU THINK IT CAME OUT BETTER THAN YOUR PREVIOUS ALBUMS BECAUSE OF THIS?
Yeah, that's one of the things, it sounds a lot better.. well I don't know about the songs, depends on the person listening to it, some people like the older songs best, some people like the newer songs...
WHICH DO YOU PREFER?
I like everything! It's like.. each album's at a different time, for that time it's a good album..
BUT IF YOU DID THAT NOW IT WOULDN'T BE SO GOOD?
Yeah.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO AFTER THE TOUR? ARE YOU GOING STRAIGHT BACK TO BRAZIL?

No, no...we're in London for one week after the last gig at Hammersmith, then we're going to mix the sound for the video, then we're doing a festival in Finland then we fly to America, Phoenix, to do an American tour then after that we've got something to do in Japan, ..maybe, we're just waiting for the answers about that. The album's just come out there so hopefully we'll get to go,..hopefully.. HEY!! So, we get back to Brazil like October/November.
DO YOU MISS BRAZIL?
Sometimes I do because I have my family, my friends, my girlfriend , y'know? It's my home so sometimes I get homesick!!
ON THE LP "ARISE" SOME OF THE LYRICS SEEM AS IF YOU HAVE A LOT OF ANGER ABOUT BRAZIL. WOULD THAT BE RIGHT?
Something about South America right? I'm not the right person to talk about the lyrics, I didn't write anything! Max and Andreas do that.. but some of the lyrics are about some crimes that happened in South America that nobody cares about, most people don't even know about, they just show people the beautiful things like Rio De Janiro..... it's not like that, we have a lot of problems too.
WHAT WAS IT LIKE PLAYING THE "ROCK IN RIO" GIG?
Oh,ooo the sound was shit but the crowd and the respect I think it was killer!! Whoosh! Like, 9,000 people screaming for you on stage...whoah! The sound was not good but the crowd were great because the underground people, there already knew us but now all of Brazil know about Sepultura,.. like "normal" people who are just into pop music or whatever know about us and that's great!
DO YOU THINK IT'S HINDERED YOU AT ALL COMING FROM BRAZIL BECAUSE IT SEEMS THAT ALL THE PREVIOUS BIG NAMES IN THRASH ARE ALL FROM THE U.S.A., GERMANY, or U.K. ?
I don't think so! Yeah, most of the bands come from this country, America, some from Germany...I think the thing was people didn't think a band from South America can sound like the American bands..I think it was one of the things that we came out of Brazil. I don't know, maybe...
IT'S JUST BECAUSE A LOT OF BRITISH PEOPLE ARE VERY EUROCENTRIC, VERY FIRST WORLD LOOKING AND IT'S LIKE "Wow", A BAND FROM BRAZIL...IT'S PRETTY UNIQUE?
Yeah, for this type of music we're the first band to come out of Brazil but other styles like jazz music, a lot of those musicians came out of Brazil to play in Europe, but not heavy metal but I think it's getting better now, oh yeah. Do I answer OK?
YEAH!
Can you understand?
YEP!
Sometimes I can't understand your accents, I think I understand American accents much better.
OK, WE'LL TRY OUR AMERICAN ACCENTS THEN!
No, no it's OK!

SO, HOW DO YOU SEE SEPULTURA STYLE GOING IN THE FUTURE WITH THE NEXT RECORD WILL IT BE ANOTHER PROGRESSION?
Yeah, for sure! I don't know what will happen between now and then, I think it's going to be something different with the next album..it will be a strong album like "Beneath The Remains" and "Arise" but still different. We'll do something very Sepultura but we try to learn more different things, to learn about music because music can go just like ANYWHERE!!
IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE STARTED TO DO THAT ON "ARISE"?
..if you just play the same like really just "drrrrr" y'know it's going to get boring, even the crowds going to get bored and I think with every album you've got to do something different, always get better, never worse!!
WHAT KIND OF PROGRESSION DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE? ON "ARISE" IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE TAKEN INFLUENCE FROM DIFFERENT TYPES OF MUSIC?

SEPULTURA

I don't know to tell you exactly, we have to write the songs yet! You'll have to wait until next year!

ARE YOU GOING TO CONTINUE LIVING IN BRAZIL OR ARE YOU MOVING TO AMERICA?

We have some plans to move to America but we have to wait for the legal papers so we can live there legally rather than trying to move there illegally! So, yeah, we have some plans to move,... not forever though, just like 4 months, 6 months , whatever... we have a rehersal room there, all our stuff is in America! Our equipment, our manager, the record label, in Brazil we have to do everything by phone, in America it's just 2 hours flying time to get wherever we need to be, that's the only reason to live in America, so we'll stay in Brazil like 2 months, 3 months, then tour like 2 months or whatever.

DO YOU THINK IT'LL HELP YOUR RISE TO INTERNATIONAL FAME? AND YOUR MUSIC?

Yeah, because in America there's lots of good music schools, resourses in general...in Brazil everythings so expensive, in Europe and America it's a lot easier, everything you need is here.

DO YOU LIKE THE AMERICAN LIFESTYLE?

Lifestyle? In America and Europe it's much the same.. except I just don't like the food! In Brazil we try to keep things fresh, we don't use as much chemicals, here everthing is in cans, everyday you use this stuff! In Brazil everything is fresh, here it's all microwaves, I don't have a microwave.. The whole taste is different, the sauce is totally different, everything!!

YOU'RE RICH ENOUGH TO FLY IT ALL IN TO AMERICA NOW THOUGH!!!

Yeah! If I'm at home I can do it all myself, I'm a real good cook, but here I don't have any stuff, I don't have time, I don't know where to get the stuff.

ARE YOU ENJOYING YOUR SUCESS?

I don't think about that too much, I'm a normal guy like you... like he is, everything that's happened has come to me real fast, we've been together like 7 years, there are other Brazillian bands who've ben together for 15 years and nothing happens so I'm just enjoying it and not really thinking about it.

IN "KERRANG!" ANDREAS WAS SAYING YOU'RE GOING TO USE YOUR SUCESS TO HELP BRAZIL, TO LET PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT BRAZIL..

Yeah, about the lyrics right?

YEAH, ARE YOU GOING TO CONTINUE DOING THAT? IS IT IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Yeah I think so, yeah, it's,..that's the way we live, some people write about flowers,love and that we don't have, you write about love and all over the world they fight, like this war we have now. Max and Andreas write to show the people about the reality , try to cover what happens. you don't have to write and say about love, you have to do it, just saying it doesn't matter, you have to do it.

WELL, WE'VE RUN OUT OF QUESTIONS. IS THERE ANYTHINNG YOU LIKE TO SAY SPECIFICALLY?

no...just, to the people, just keep your mind open to the music, stop fighting, try to be more friendly because you have just one life, you have to make friends not fight everyone..

THIS IS OUR FIRST TIME DOING THIS.

Your first time?

YEAH, WELL LIVE INTERVIEWING ANYWAY.

Oh..right..

DO YOU THINK WITH THRASH BANDS A LOT OF THEM SING ABOUT HATE,DO YOU THINK THAT'S A BIT PESSIMISTIC, YOU SAY YOU THINK EVERYONE SHOULD BE FRIENDS, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE PEOPLE INTO THRASH BECAUSE OF IT'S IMAGE OF BEING ABOUT HATE AND VIOLENCE?

Some people just, some of the bands they write about hate and violence but they don't know what they're talking about, others do, some people seem to get into these bands and act like they write in the lyrics and I think, well, I'm not like that, and I don't really want to talk about that because behind everyone there is a person and if they want to be like that that's up to them..

SEPULTURA CONT. OVER LEAF >>

SEPULTURA

DOES IT NOT DISTRESS YOU THAT YOU'RE ALL NORMAL GUYS AND THEN AT THE GIGS SOME OF THE CROWD ARE INTO YOU BECAUSE THE MUSIC'S NASTY...

Yeah I guess so because this kind of music, this is strong music,yes and people try to put all the hate out, all the depression and everything at the gig and at the end they all feel a lot better.. it's a kind of a, I dunno how to explain this in english, just to kind of put out all your feelings, something .....sorry!

Yeah, because this kind of music they have that attitude, the people are into pop music they have that and they out all their feelings out in that way.

WHAT ARE YOUR MUSICAL INFLUENCES?

I started to do this kind of music with Kiss and Maiden... that's my favourite bassist, Steve Harris, he's not the fastest but I like his style the best. I listen to everything really, I don't like too much noise, but I just like to understand, fast, slow, screaming,.. I like spanish music, aucoustic guitars, jazz music, heavy metal, Brazilian music.

IT SOUNDED ON THE FIRST LP's IT WAS JUST MORE STRAIGHT FORWARD THRASH BUT ON "ARISE" IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE MIXED ALOT OF OTHER THINGS TOO.

Yeah 'coz like, the 2 first albums when we recorded I was like 15 and none of us knew about the sound and studios and stuff, we recorded the 1st album in 2 days and we didn't know even how to work in a studio because in Brazil at that time they didn't have like producers so we did it ourselves, even now they don't have any good producers, just engineers, but it was good!!! It was a good experience for us,...oh yeah!

WHAT DO YOU MISS MOST ABOUT BRAZIL WHILE YOU'RE AWAY ON TOUR?

My friends, my family, my girlfriend, the food!! That's the things I miss the most...my friends, family, girlfriend, food!

DO YOU LIKE BRAZIL THE COUNTRY APART FROM ALL THE CORRUPTION?

Yeah, Brazil's a nice country, I like it a lot, everybody who goes to Brazil likes it there, it doesn't matter what country they're from they like it, but for Brazil we have a lot of problems with money, bullies, police, nobody respected, nobody respects the laws, and if you like to make money a lot of Brazilians move away to London, New York to make it because we don't have any chances to make money in Brazil, just a few people make it all in Brazil, people who make money in Brazil make a lot of money, those who don't make money doesn't make anything, sometimes, well always we have problems with our passports at the airports because they look at us and it's like Brazilians, oh no, to them it means trouble, someone with a blue passport go straight through, with us from Brazil they go through your stuff, take off your clothes. but I like Brazil, it's a good country, good weather, we don't have any earthquakes, hurricanes, the weather,it's like good all the time, it's a good country.

WHAT ABOUT THE PEOPLE IS IT A GOOD ATMOSPHERE?

Oh yeah, the peole are very friendly, more friendly than here, here if you have different coloured skin like I do you get trouble, this doesn't happen in Brazil, we've got a lot of different nationalities, you find like, white,black,redhair,japanese,...

EVERYONE GETS ON?

Well, there are some people who are racist, but not like in America, Germany, England.

DO YOU THINK THERE'S MUCH HOPE FOR BRAZIL TO SORT HER PROBLEMS OUT?

I don't think so, like every president we have they always have new plans,change money but it never works because all the people in the country would have to work together, not just up to the police, it needs everyone.

HATE

So you want to know what makes me overheat under the collar , what gets that hairy fucker of a goat of mine by it's scrawny useless bollocks? Well you asked for it prickbreath, so I'm gonna give it to you, straight from my asshole down your vomit pipe.

I hate todays so called funnys, their jokes makes me gag and those fat, sweaty, grimacing commedians make me want to mutilate in ways that really make ME laff. Wanking all over each others redundent senses of humour every fucking Saturday night. They've made me want to create my own particular brand of Saturday night humour, 'cos you see dad jokes are bad jokes and if I hear another one without inflicting pain on the perpitrator my brain's going to heamorrage. All my fucking life, dad jokes. The same fucking tired unfunny turdy sexist-racist bastard jokes, ignored by wives everywhere behind bored plastic smiles. Well I've burnt my smile and I'm gonna burn yours. Their "my wifes a fat bastard and so's that cow of a mother of hers", ha! fucking funny ha!, and "do you know that my wifes so fucking stupid that she can't cook my Sunday dinner just how I want it, her gravy is so sodding thick that it needs to be cut with a carving knife, mind you so am I but the thick bitch hasn't realized yet", and the "well take my mother-in-law (wish you would 'cos she constantly trying to get my wife to divorce me or at least to bleed me dry by hanging me from the ceiling and sawing my feet off), which just goes to show that I don't hate women 'cos I laff at their jokes as well as them". What a pack of cards, I'd hate to not split open their sweating pigdog faces and their ever reiterating swelling necks and deal them a nice suprise, by stuffing some real shit right down into their ever expanding overpaid bile pits and watch them laff then.

As for those up and coming alternative types, the ecowimp wacky sensitve new man who can crack a joke on any topic, including himself. Which is nice to know 'cos I've a few jokes up my uzi for him, which are far better than any asswipe jokes about how he got lost on the M25 while looking for that elusive other soak while cracking another worthy of spitting image about the politican which looks like a fish and goes wibble wibble.Which just goes to show that most nice commedians which are inoffensive enough to take home to mother can't tell the diference between a surreal joke and a cereal joke. So take one home to your mom today, so she can try out her new extra strech rack with added nails for extra bloodletting and give her a real laff for Xmas.

As the saying goes "too many commedians too few jokes", and "so many cocks to suck but not enough teeth to bite them off". As for that Castlefat twat on the bus who insists on telling us poor little cunts how his cock is too big for his whore that it rips her in two each time they try, my little joke for him is to cut that fucker straight in two with a double edged chainsaw, I'm gonna fuck that prick straight in two with it and fuck him till it hurts not only when he laffs, but when he can't as well. Now that makes me laff.

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE BOLLOCKS RECORDS

ACCUSED:"Hymns For The Derranged" mini L.P. 5/5

I haven't got a clue when, why or where this came out...it's on a German label and it's about £9, that probably answers two of those questions. It sounds recent anyway, the latter days of the Accused "chugga chugga crunchy" sound, rocking toons and generally huge lumps of loud!

There are a couple of almost duff trax but even they just sound like they need a little more working out. So, what you end up with is a side of typical Accused bliss and a side of dodgy recordings of cover tunes which are really raw, definately rocking. "Cold Sweat" is fucking awesome and well worth it's share of the £9. And then "Highway Star" makes me wish I'd had to pay £18...jeezus "Symptoms of the Universe" makes it your lucky day. It must have all the other geeks who've attempted the Sabs classic hanging their heads in shame!

All in all you get an enormous 12" of new trax and an excercise in fantasizing that you too had ton's of friends to hang out with playing groovy rock classics in your cellar.

And it's clear vinyl so go get 'em kidz. (NICK)

POISON IDEA:"Feel The Darkness" Vinyl Solution 5/5

The self proclaimed Kings of Punk have cut an amazingly ace album. True to their punk rock origins they are angry, loud and fast. They've successfully crossed their raw and urgent sound with the power and energy of Heavy Rock, one of the few bands to have achieved a crossover sound which doesn't sound awkward or sporadic. A truely excellent album which I am compelled to play over and over again.

Poison Idea are no wimpouts, no hiding behind major glossy production sounds, this is true raw punk Rock, not that the production is in any way inadequate, on the contrary it is completely in keeping with the raw energy of this album. So they just as tough and uncompromising on record as they are on stage, and not many bands can say that even about their live albums.

The sound is so crunchy and Heavy that you can almost bite into it. Fast and frantic guitars argue with the agressive bass rhythms and the drumming pounds out the defiance and "fuck you" attitude of Poison Idea. Jerry A the 290 pound front man and main driving force behind the Poison Idea legend provides violent and intense vocals which demand attention. Lyrically they pull no punches, they're critical and insightful of the darkside of life in everyday America, with cutting wit they show the underbelly as it really is.

This is no concept album, each song has a unique sound which gives the whole album a flavour all it's own, as I said before it's an amazing record, so if you reckon you're shit hot, buy it! If not, wimp off! (RUTHLESS)

SOLITUDE AETURNUS:"Into the Depths of Sorrow" LP Roadracer BIG FAT ZERO!!

Firstly, Solitude Aeturnus are an extremely ugly looking miserable bunch from Texas. Secondly, they haven't got a clue what heavy means. They play outdated Candlemass riffs with no depth, no heavy bass, and vocals that make me chuck.

"Into the Depths of Sorrow" isn't heavy, and it isn't metal.

Trouble are heavy. Wolfsbane are metal. Solitude Aeturnus are a tiresome plod.

The cover's shit too (NICK)

CANCER:"Death Shall Rise" Vinyl Solution 4/5

Judging by the cover (as we're prone to do) this was going to be one bad mutha of a record but as soon as the needle hit the deck all preconceptions of 1980's spandex ridden metal were forgoten and we were reminded that this is death metal! First track, nicely titled "Hung Drawn and Quartered" is a stormer, it's even got our saviour Glen Benton (Deicide) chucking up the odd regugitated corpse on backing vocals.The drums are heavy and tight, the guitars are riffing well nasty and the whole things pretty damn good.

Song titles all through the album are very death metal, very brutal, my favourite's being "Tastless Incest" "Gruesome Tasks" and "Corpsefire". The lyric's are real death metal, bringing back the tradition of bad rhymes like in the good old days of Possessed "Seven Churches" era. Take the amazing, if not pure genius of...

"Screams of pain, haunt the night. Cadavers burning, oh so bright. Left to die. Horrible death. Now awaiting Hell's Breath"

Cancer are classic '90's death metal and good on 'em. (NICK)

DECADENCE WITHIN:"Soulwound" L.P. Peaceville 3/5

This is Decadence Within's second LP and although it's much improved on the "good but not that good" debut "This Lunacy", it's still a bit of a letdown.

Live "Decadence Within" can be really powerful but on record they seem to lose something, they always seem to sound held back to me. I really can't pin point what the hell it is but something just ain't right about it. They seem to give you a glimpse of some mean mutha songs and then never quite let loose. Hopefully they'll satisfy on their single on First Strike Records which is out now.

Lyrically, well they aint my bag, they talk about a lot of things I don't really give a, fuck about, maybe you do, so there you go.

To sum up, I reckon they should relax the music a bit and rock out a lot more, write a few songs about killer crabs coming to eat your brain or something, then they'd be a real star act! (NICK)

RERECORDSDS

GORGUTS:"Considered Dead" L.P. Roadracer. 5/5

As the name suggests Gorguts are an ode to Heavy death-gore. Savage riffing, a mutilating bass and pounding skins all threaten to overthrow any sensibilities you may've left as they drag your brain on a voyage through the labyrinth of the Gorguts death-gore vision.

Very much in the vein of Heavy death Metal but not in the least bit predictable. This is indeed a pleasure (if not a pain) to listen to.

Mellow interludes juxtapose the mainly savage delivery. In keeping the lyrics are sick, gory and strangely reminiscent of the tales from E.C. comics.

Recorded by Scott Burns this is one Heavy record. Guest appearences by James Murphy (formerly of Cancer, Obituary, & Death) playing lead in the song "Innoculated Life" said of it "it was probably the best lead I have ever done"; and also guesting, the infamous Chris Barnes vocalist with Cannibal Corpse adding backing gutterals to three toons.

All in all a record worth grabbing hold of. (RUTHLESS)

TYPE O NEGATIVE:"Slow, Deep and Hard" L.P. Roadracer 0/5

The first thing that struck me about this whole package was what a silly man Peter Steele is which is a bit of a sad state as far as the music goes.

Basically the lyrics are really pathetic hate sort of stuff, with no real attitude, not even really offensive just sort of sad.

Musically it's not that amazing either! It's kind of crossover except rather than making good metal punky or vice versa it just makes bad hardcore badly metal. Occasionally it brightens up, but not for more than 30 seconds at a time.

Apparently TYPE O NEGATIVE "engulf us in a glorious world of anger, destruction, pain and fear".That's what the press releae says, but all it really did for me was drag me through a shitty bedsit of crappy melodramatic tame nob cheese. (NICK)

HEATHEN:"Victims of Deception" LP Roadracer 3/5

I've always had a soft spot for Heathen, despite all the bad luck they seem to have thrown at them they've stuck to what they want to do, producing stuff they like, even if it aint always "cool". Do Heathen care about cool? Do they fuck!

"Victims Of Deception" is very much a "Bay Area" band sound, hints of Metallica coming through now and again but that's not to say Heathen haven't got heaps of their own style! The guitars crunch, the drums are tight and David Godfrey White's vocals are full of personality. I must admit sometimes his "classic" vocal approach get's too much for me but overall it suits the whole sound and he's so sincere my personal preferences seem petty.

Lyrically it's very intense story telling, lots of observations on life...not really my cup of tea but it's all there if you want to look further than the music.

The cover of "Kill The King" is an admirable version of Rainbow's classic brought into Heathen's own style.

Heathen may need a little more time to pull out a real stormer of an LP, hopefully with some luck (for a change!) they'll be real big one day soon. (NICK)

METALLICA:"METALLICA AS FUCK" L.P. Vertigo 5/5

I don't suppose this really needs reviewing but if I'm going to put the time in and review a shitty HARD ONS L.P. I deserve a bit of self indulgent hero worship.

After the success of the ultra catchy "Enter Sandman" single and Metallica's commanding Donington appearance this was pretty much bound to blow me away but never did I expect such a hard blow as this!

The hard bits are hard as fuck. The riffs are heavy AND catchy these days too. The lyrics are dafter but better for it, in fact the whole thing has got an overall groove to it that dismisses all the earlier seriousness Metallica seem to get caught up in on "Justice". The solo's are Kirk's best to date, the "yeah's" are getting more frequent and Lars has managed to uncomplicate his drumming get a much more pumping sound AND yes! There is bass on this album, and loads of it! Bob Rock really has made Metallica rock again!!

Best trax are "Unforgiven" for pain, "Don't Tread On Me" for toughness,"Wherever I May Roam" for attitude and "Nothing Else Matters" for tears.

If you don't buy this you're more of a loser than all your teachers said you were. (NICK)

SKIN CHAMBER:"Wounded" L.P. Roadracer 1/5

The press release promised that Skin Chamber is the "sound of pure pain". However the album "wounded" is merely painful to listen to.

At first I was excited by the concept of a thrash influenced industrial record and there is the odd bit of thrash type guitar on the album, but the guitar elements are rare and appear ten minutes too late, and they aren't really incorporated into it. It sounds like they were stuck in for effect (by someone stuck for ideas to liven up an extremely dull album) and hoping to sell to a larger Metal market.

It was too reminiscent of 1980's industrial music in the vein of Einstuerzende Neubauten, instead of building on their influiences they passed up on the idea of being original and decided to bore us to death with a bad copy. It was indeed "crushingly slow".

In my kinder moments I think a mini album may have been a better idea, but to be honest I don't really think much about Skin Chamber. (RUTHLESS)

SEPULTURA:"Arise" L.P. Roadracer 5/5

I suppose it's pretty obvious by the rest of the zine that us Activate kiddies reckon Sepultura are way cool... well here's another chunck of evidence to prove the fact. "Arise" is really amazing. Sepultura's last LP "Beneath the Remains" was hot but "Arise" kicks even that piece of way coolness into oblivion.

"Arise" is pretty damn near perfect for where it's at! It's got power, in fact it's got POWER! The riffs are huge, the drums beats just pound, the vocals are the best mix of death and shout you're ever likely to hear and most importantly the songs are catchy man!!

Fuck knows how but Sepultura seem to have just about summed up the last five years of thrash and death metal have been about in one LP. When all the other death metal acts are losing their interest levels and mainstream thrash is losing it's edge Sepultura are coming up smelling of roses.

They rule, next album is gonna take over the rest of the fucking world.(NICK)

RERECORDSDS

MELVINS:"Bullhead" Boner Recs.4/5

Already having aquired their first two masterpieces, "Gluey Porch Treatments" and "Ozma" I was really looking forward to their next offering. "Bullhead" is still the Melvins and I still think they're one fuck of an ace band. However the pain of listening to the Melvins (which is an S and M experience all it's own) and the edge they had seems to be missing. The way the drums, bass, guitar and vocals pushed away from each other and pulled together all at the same time, the way they slowed down and speeded up just when you didn't expect it, and the way they cut dead and missed beats at all the wrong times, is so Melvins and so disappointingly missing from this LP.

It's as if they know how to do Melvins too well, the style is still there, it's the heady disturbing effect that isn't. It also sounds like they aren't quite sure of their new direction or it hasn't quite amalgamated itself into their, to date, tight understanding of each other.

Still it's a good record, especially for those who can't quite take their "Gluey Porch Treatments" or "Ozma" records but still want to feel like they're a Melvins fan. And if you get a chance to see them live then do 'coz they'll blow your shit away.(RUTHLESS)

BELIEVER:"Sanity Obscure" Roadracer. 2/5

This is christian death metal at it's most christian death metalist I suppose! Whether that's any good or not when compared to satanist death metal I'm not too sure but I think my money's probably on the side with the horns!!

Musically it's OK on first listen, quite heavy, deathly and generally OK..Then on the second and third listen it started to sound kind of a copy cat band. Couple that with the lack of satan and you've got one mighty boring record!

It gets worse when Believer attempt a death metal opera in"Dies Iraes" which really is horrendous.(Worse than non- death metal opera!!) Nope,not even any points for trying I'm afraid, especially when it's being chased by a cover of U2's "Like A Song", something I never want to hear again. The lyrics... at first I thought maybe the novelty of a christian death metal band would be pretty amusing, no so....,not funny at all. (NICK)

IMMOLATION :"Dawn Of Possession" Roadracer 4/5

This first album from Immolation is a strong debut for this three year old band. A powerful album, it shows that Immolation are imbued with the urgency and energy that seems to typyify the New York sound.

The overall effect is savage and brutal. The lyrics prophisis of the second coming and tell of the ongoing eternal struggle between good and evil and all that satanic stuff. The vocals are extremely raw and malignant. The power drumming is relentless and so are the power bass lines. The bass at times sounds typical but its sheer consistency keeps the more flamboyant and intricate styles of the guitars and drumming together. The guitar sound has an almost melodic quality which enriches the sound without losing it's edge.

"Dawn of Possession" varies between a throbbing intensity like a blood clot on the brain and a savage thrashing which grabs you by a limb and smashes your body against a wall. Intricate and imaginative time changes keep this record lively, original and exciting without sounding too complicated. (RUTHLESS)

DICTATORS:"Fuck 'Em If They Can't Take A Joke" LP ROIR 5/5

The Dictators always were and probably always will be ignored. The MC5 are getting credit for SUB POP, The RAMONES for punk rock, the NEW YORK DOLLS for glam, well what about the Dictators? The truth is the Dictators were the greatest Rock'n'Roll band EVER as any of their records will prove. Daft lyrics, daft tunes, daft hair. No politics, just T.V. beer and pizza.

This ROIR LP pretty much sums up the Dictators' genius, "The Next Big Thing", "Weekend" "New York", I'm in heaven. Hansome Dick Manitoba is the ultimate frontman, ugly, egotistical, obnoxious, dumb and LOUD!! Ross the Boss is great because Manitoba lets him be great, Top Ten's rhythm guitar has no rhythm, bass man with fuzz Andy Shernoff is a bass man with fuzz and drummer Richie Teeter has no beat.

The Dictators ruled and they always will.

Fuck 'Em if they can't take the Dictators. (NICK)

DEMON:"Hold On To The Dream" C.D. Sonic 1/5

Demon are a band whose name I've been hearing for years now but it never seems to have been a "wow, have you heard Demon?" kind of mention, more like just having the knowledge that they exist without ever knowing where from.

Anyway, now I've finally heard Demon and I still don't really have much of a feeling about them! Basically, Demon aren't at all bad but they just leave me numb.

They're very much a Brit metal band, it's not breaking any barriers but it is far more sincere than shite like Little Angels or Thunder, Demon have their hearts in it, that's for sure.

The truth is, this is really hard to review because it's not my thing, and if there is only one record you'll buy this year don't get this but if Magnum type rock is your thing check 'em out. (NICK)

RERECORDSDS

CEREBRAL FIX:"Bastards!" L.P. Roadracer 4/5

Having not heard either of Cerebral Fix's first 2 albums but being familiar with their demo's this came as quite a pleasant suprise... not that they were bad, but I thought maybe they'd burnt out but this album proves they're definately on the brink of something.

At first it came across as a very AMEBIX/DISCHARGE sound but as it went on it sounded more and more impressive and distinctive, mainly due to Simon Forrest's vocals which are (still) well good.

It has to be said though, the cover is fucking diabolocal!! Why, oh why do so many bands have to have such shite covers??? Something about it makes the LP seem so much more crappy... Luckily the Fix manage to overcome that with smart as hell toons, good rhythms and neat solo's.

Lyrically... Fix need a good slap around, why the fuck can't they write about satan? What's wrong with satan these days? He went to all the trouble of inventing death metal for some musical interest in Hades and twats like Cerebral Fix think they can turn around and write serious bollocks...We want more satan!!

So, 1 mark off for the lyrics but a nice 4 for the cool music. (NICK)

LUDWIG VON 88:"Ce Jour Heureaux Est Plein D'Allegress'" 0/5

When I first heard this French styled euro-pop influenced hard core band Ludwig Von 88 I have to admit that I found it quite amusing. Three months later I had to be admitted to a sanatorium for the seriously mentally damaged. I was found aimlessly wandering the moors with the said album clutched in my hands dribbling and muttering obscenities. My copy was burnt and destroyed but not until extensive tests had been carried out. It was found to be extremly mentallty toxic, it had not only inflicted serious mental damage on fifty normally sane guinnea pigs (and seasoned thrashers) but also on the staff of ten who had contacted the tests. I warn everyone out there (during one of my few moments of lucidity) to avoid this record, even if the only alternative is watching John Sessions.

At first this record appears to be innocuous enough, this disc of madness, but then it begins to eat away at the edge of your sanity, KILL KILL, MAIM, DESTROY, LUDWIG VON 88... (RUTHLESS)

POWERSURGE:"Powersurge" L.P. Roadracer 1/5

I know you shouldn't really judge a book by it's cover but when a cover's that bad I just can't help but think "this is gonna suck big time"

And I was right... I don't not like it but I could never (not even under torture) say I did like it and paying money for it would destroy all my pride...

It's very traditional power metal (without much real power) in the vein of early MAIDEN/PRIEST/QUEENSRYCHE but not good. The vocals are annoying as hell (in the style of Geoff Tate) and sometimes the time changes are really fuckin' dodgy, making it sound very demo- stage sort of thing. But it aint that bad, maybe I just missed the point....

If you're fed up with all the current death/funk metal then... get out all your old Maiden records, don't fork out on this drivel.

Nah, this aint my idea of fun. (NICK)

SUFFOCATION:"Effigy of the Forgotten" L.P. Roadracer 5/5

Shit! Whatever happened to nice aucoustic intro's? Non of that namby pampy stuff for the mighty Suffocation who jump straight into it at a real high pace, noisy guitars and the voice of a "cancer ridden Grizzly"!!

And MAN they don't let up AT ALL, no chance to look at the the cover, light a fag and sit back to read the lyrics 'cuz you'll miss the boat for sure!! The most intriuging thing about the whole Sufocation experience is determining whether or not Frank Mullen actually sings any of the lyrics at all, I have my doubts after trying to follow him through the first half of the first song but I was doomed to fail... maybe I didn't put all my energies into it though as I was pretty busy bowing down to drummer, Mike Smith's blast beats!!

Suffocation are definately a top class death metal act, the cover's nasty, they look nasty, they sing nasty and man, do they play nasty.

Suffocation should be huge. (NICK)

HARD - ONS:"Yummy" L.P. Vinyl Solution 0/5

Man, this one's misleading, it gave me neither a hard on or the urge to shout "Yummy" in my most wacky of voices.

The Hard Ons are really predictable, boring and shitey. The tunes are bad, the comedy ain't comedy. "Stairway to Heaven" isn't...anything!

This is fucking dire. (NICK)

CONTROPOTERE: "Il Seme Della Deianza" Skuld Records. 5/5

Contropotere are an experimental punk hardcore industrial influenced band from Italy, and if that sounds like too much then there's a Metal influence to complete the picture.

With a driving guitar sound offset by a variable drum beat the sound is lively and dramatic. The raw and angry vocals compliment the often disturbing effect.

Often the pace varies between speedy thrashy punk and slow heavy dragging industrial, stretching and squeezing your brain. Atmospheric effects (especially between tracks) enrich and enliven the experience, removing the often tedious effect of too much samity in much poor quality punk.

They are obviously attempting to broaden and expand upon the concept of punk beyond hardcore and adding the odd industrial type bit to sound clever, and I think it works. Their amalgamation of other genres has created a stimulating and interesting sound.

It's a record which defies catogorisation and it's a record which challenges the listener.It might be quite hard to get hold of, so for interested punters, here's the address:SKULD RELEASES, Schelmengraben 59, 7016 Gerlingen, GERMANY. (RUTHLESS)

UPTOWN BONES: "E" L.P. Vinyl Solution 0/5

The Uptown Bones have apparently played wih loads of ultra cool bands and because of this they're really impressed with themselves.

It's not really bad, just second rate bland, they seem to wanna be something they ain't.

Ruthless reckons they sound really D.C. hardcore and I reckon she might be right because I never got past the second song in true listening to Fugazi style.

Didn't make me too hot to trot. (NICK)

RERECORDSDS

GWAR."Scumdogs of the Universe" Master Records 5/5

Originally having landed in Antartica on a mission from outer space to take over and destroy the world, the scumdogs of the universe ended up spending hundreds of years in the frozen wastes in a state of suspended animation. After global warming thawed them out they decided they didn't really want to take over the Earth, instead they defied their intergalactic masters and formed a rock band. The rest as they say, is history.

If you have bought their first offering to bad taste and survived the experience (that is if your head didn't explode) then you will love this particually gross offering. The music on this album is far superior to their penultimate disc, it's more together, their playing is much improved and it's still Heavy Metal. The guitars grind and scream throughout the riffing, as the bass throbbs mercilessly, the skins (who or what's I don't know) are beaten menacingly and the vocals are excruciatingly malevolent and bestial, creating a heady cocktail of Heavy anthemic Metal.

Tackling such important issues as what to do about the threat posed by the evil scourge of the hippies, goths and skinheads to those of pure Metal mind and body in the toon "Slaughterama". "Sick of You" is a good song to play to those people who really piss you off. Other fave raves include "Vlad the Impaler", a thoughtful and sympathetic profile of a much misunderstood man, and "Sexicutioneer", you'll sexcuse me if I don't go into sexessive detail about it but I sexpect that the title is sexpresslly self sexplanitory.

I missed the band on their last tour of Britain so I got hold of a video of a gig they did in their "hometown" of Antartica. It was a disgusting display of countless mutilations, dismemberments and disembowelments which stopped only for a moment so they could fuck a dead dog. The show ended with the abduction of the entire audience, none of whom have been heard of since.

If you haven't already encountered GWAR, then do so, if you have then you already know more than enough. (RUTHLESS)

POISON IDEA "PLASTIC BOMB"(OFFICIAL BOOTLEG) 7" 5/5

The press handout which accompanied this double 7" pack advised that I should "play these records very loud whilst drinking heavily" and who am I to argue with advise like that, so I'm off down the offie, see you later.

Well they were fucking right Poison Idea are fucking ace loud and even acer with a couple of six packs inside. They are also pretty ace loud while typing up a fucking review the next day, after a couple of dog hairs later that is.

"Plastic Bomb"is a version of the first song on their new LP "Feel The Darkness". And what a fucking stonking version it is too. Loud lively and nasty, what I like to hear. The next three toons tend to follow a slower pace (but no less furious), in keeping with the original versions of "We've Got the Beat", "Harder They Come" and "Lawdy,Miss Clawdy", but thats all they've left of the original sounds. Jerry A. roughs up the vocals more than some what, and rest liven and nasty up the toons in true Poison Idea style, with Pig Champion providing some particually excellent riffing.

An ace package that will show any sadly misled skeptics that Poison Idea are a truely awesome band, who really know how to rock'n'roll, and do it their way. An offer not to be missed.

HEADS UP "DUKE" 5/5 EMERGO

Heads Up are a band who have been influenced by the recent surge in funk metal which has really added to their New York hardcore sound. They formed in Brooklyn, New York with only one ambition, to play C.B.G.B.'s, they've come along way since then.

The first time I played this brilliant five track mini-album I couldn't believe that I hadn't heard of this band before. The production on it is very good, which is a nice change from the often bassless rough cuts on much cheap punk type hard core.

The bass has a real smart funk hardcore edge which is complimented by the guitar which sometimes goes wild into some fucking ace riffing. The drumming is enthusiastic, imaginative and energetic. Although the vocalist is obviously influenced by Rollins it isn't quite as noticable on the album as it is in their live performances. He's rare in that he uses his voice to add to the music rather than making the music surrendeer to his ego.

On side one the second track "I'm Alive", displays their immense energy potential, it's a fast track which really funk rocks out. The next track "Love U" is a slower and a more atmosphereic toon showing the more soulful side of their ability. Side two starts on a more poignant foot with "Crippled Dog", the music and the vocals are almost deadpan the effect of which is quite startling. The last song on side two "Sleep Sister Sleep" proudly displays the musical talent of this band and also their bluesy depth.

A brilliant album.

PESTILENCE "TESTIMONY OF THE ANCIENTS" Roadracer 3/5

An enthusiastic and lively album full of anger and brutality. A potentially good album, unfortunately I feel that it was ruined by it's desire to be a concept album and by useing "sadness interludes".

These "sadness interludes" last between 30 and 60 seconds. They're small instrumentals which aim to use different genres "as far apart as Jazz and metal" (although I was led to believe that Jazz has greatly influenced the rise of Rock'n'Roll and therefore ultimately Metal) to create an atmosphere for the record, instead they just ended up creating a feeling of discontinuity. They don't work on their own either, but then sadness is an emotion which is very hard to represent musically, it's a real crap trap. As for it being a concept album, the problem with most concept ablums is that the band feel they have a right to shove their philosophies down our necks in the most pretentious way possible. The issue that "Testimony" tackles is the "Quest for the truth of existence", what ever that is, they didn't succeed. The bottom line is that concept albums are boring and a really bad idea.

But as I said the music is good honest death Metal with a strong guitar sound, thrashy drums, pulling bass line and brutal vocals,but it just ain't my bottle of beer. (RUTHLESS)

SINDROME

SINDROME are a name probably slightly known to some of you. They releaed an infamously heavy debut demo "Into the Halls of Extermination" in 1988 and have now finally completed the follow up. The following is an interview sent to us by vocalist Troy Dixler back mid last year....

WHAT HAS HAPPENED WITH SINDROME SINCE THE RELEASE OF "INTO THE HALLS OF EXTERMINATION"?

It's been a long time since "Halls" was released.. For the readers who aren't familiar with Sindrome, over a year ago we replaced our guitar players with Mick Vega and Rob Welsh. Since then we've been writing all of the new material we've just recorded. We recently finished at Morrisound studios with Tom Morris. Our new cassette is in the midst of being released.it's entitled "Vault of Inner Conscience".

Right now I'm working on the finishing touches for the pressing and ordering all of the new merchandising. we're going to have a lot of new stuff available.

TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT MICK VEGA AND ROB WELSH?

For a band in the Chicago area it's not the easiest project to replace even one guitar player. This town is full of the run of the mill bar bands doing the same shit over and over. Every one of them have a distorted view about what it takes them to get a contract, so when we were having auditions we had guitar players from every fuckin' bar band coming out. We actually had to steal Mick from another band after we had seen him perform at a local show. We just showed him that there is a much bigger picture than just Chicago.

As for Rob, it wasn't easy at all. At the time when we had toured with WHIPLASH a couple of years ago his girlfriend saw us in Cleveland, Ohio, and we became friends with her. Well to make a long story short she called me up six months after that tour and we told her we needed a guitar player. Just out of luck her boyfriend was Rob and he was just completing his batchelor of Music degree in Cleveland. He came out and it worked out really great. So basically he re-located from his parents home in Louisville, Kentucky and joined.

HOW WOULD YOU COMPARE THE MATERIAL ON "INTO THE HALLS..." TO THE NEW TAPE?

Back in 1988 when we wrote "Into..." we were much more into the death metal sound for the most part it had a very gruff sound to it. Being that we all came from previous death metal bands I think that had a major influence on what we were writing at the time. Besides that we weren't very knowledgeble about guitar sounds etc. so the production of Hall's didn't help matters. One thing's for sure though, Halls lasted a lot longer than a lot of albums that were around at that time, so we're very happy with it for the time it was written. Comparing that to where we are at now is like night and day. One thing that seperates our sound is that our guitar players have a lot more skill in writing and overall structuring. Our sound now is without a doubt heavy otherwise it wouldn't be Sindrome, but we have an element of musicallity that I think Halls lacked. Beside that major fact we have got a lot more progressive in the rhythm, writing and not to mention the production is miles above "Halls". For me personally I think the lyrical concept for this tape and the storyline is not only more mature but a lot more thought out. I think anyone comparing tapes would have no problem in seeing the improvements.

I HEARD THERE'S A STORYLINE THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE CASSETTE? WHAT'S THE CONCEPT ABOUT?

"Vault of Inner Conscience" is about an individuals passage into the future. In the beginning while having re-occuring dreams of future events he merely displaces them as fantasies. Through these dreams he thinks to himself that if there were real stories, why all of a sudden were they coming to him and who is sending them. He then learns that he is being channeled by a spirit and the scenes are in fact true visions of prophecies. Not sure how to think by seeing so many negative things the spirit assures him that he was chosen and that his believing can change the course of our predetermoned future if he can get people to listen to his words. Then he feels as if he will be the world's saviour, and his visions were a divine gift. The spirit shows him how to seperate his soul from his physical being and travel into the dimensions beyond our own to actually see what will happen if the future continues in the same direction. Then he see's what was predicted as the antichrist, but not in the way we're all envisioning, but as a figure that everyone respects. He see's how in fact it is a reality for him to lead the people being that they can see the true meaning behind his face. He also see's a year of darkness aproaching and the year of famine it brings causes people to go to any expense to stay alive.Then he see's the coming of a disease to wipe out a great portion of our race,then he see's that these visions are a true reality. With all the knowledge he tries to get as much exposure as possible through the media and tries to form a group of people that will be saved from the world's demise. He is only to learn that everyone thinks of him as a born again Christian who is

SINDROME

HEATHEN

SINDROME

addicted to God and is trying to push his views too strongly onto other people.With no-one believing him, completely alone in his world he decides to seperate his soul from his body and live immune from the impact that is soon to face us all.

WHAT ABOUT SINDROME SIGNING TO A RECORD LABEL? ANY OFFERS?

We had a good share of offers sent our way but the main factor that prevented us signing was the line-up change and the fact that we weren't really looking to sign to a small label.

HOW IS THE CHICAGO SCENE LATELY?

The Chicago scene has come a long way since we were first together. Almost every national thrash band that has come through has sold out or come pretty close to it. Our local scene has also come a long way. I'm sure people in the Underground are familiar with bands like Crucle, Macabre, Aftermath, Funeral Nation, Flesnold, Vianite and Broken Hope to mention a few.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE THRASH/DEATH SCENE THESE DAYS?

It seems like a lot of bands that were very popular in the underground when Halls came out are now signed and doing pretty well. With a lot of labels signing almost every death metal band coming out from the underground it seems like there's a bit of over saturation of quality bands lately.

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE LOOK LIKE FOR SINDROME?

As of right now we are extremely busy with all of the mail for our new tape. We are working on getting as many distributors and people to run fan clubs as possible.In the upcoming months we'll start looking at our options with labels. Right now we're looking to hook up with as many magazines, radio stations etc. as possible.

ANY FINAL COMMENTS TO ADD AND PLEASE TELL OUR READERS HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH SINDROME?

It's been a long time that we've been putting together our material for this tape, I'm sure that when you hear it you'll se it was worth it. Anyone that ordered from Sindrome in the past and it's taken a long time, we were behind and it took a while to catch up and we've had to repress quite a few times. We're up to date now.

Anyone interested in being on our mailing list, send 4 IRC's. We have new merchandise including some killer new long sleeved shirts, sweat shirts and a ton of other stuff. All of the "Into " material is still available, it's been remastered too.The new tape is available for $8(USA) & $9(elsewhere) inc.p+p.. Zines,radio and especially distributors that are interested in Sindrtome please write.Thanx for the support.

MIDWEST MANAGEMENT EXCHAGE,c/o Troy Dixler.PO Box 2112,Highland Park, IL. 60035-8112

A few year's ago Bay Area thrash band Heathen were being tipped to becoming a really big name in thrash, then they hit a lot of problem's (that are explained later) and disappeared. Last year Heathen appeared in this country supporting the mighty Sepultura and we met up with vocalist David White Godfrey at Nottingham Rock City, here's what happened..

The dastardly Activate tape machine was messing up again, but I stil managed to get the interview going...

SO HOW WAS IT TONIGHT?

It was..OK..we had a lot of problems, our drummer broke the bass drum pedal, it was the first time on the whole tour we've had any problems. The first gig in the U.K. but the kids were still into it. WHOOAAH! (the chair he's sat on creaks!) well I guess I'm smurfing it with you guys!! That chairs crazy man.

SO, HAVE YOU DONE THE WHOLE TOUR?

Yeah, we didn't do just the first few dates, we missed those before we jumped on. It's been great.

YOU'VE GOT A "NEW" ALBUM OUT?

Yeah, "Victims of Deception".

YEAH, I GOT THE FIRST ONE A FEW YEARS BACK BUT I THOUGHT YOU'D DISAPPEARED.

We did!

THEN I SAW THE AD'S FOR THIS TOUR AND DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON..

Yeah, well we went through a lot of crazy times after the first record came out, we had this really screwed up managment situation and er, it took us a while to get out of that and after that we got free out of Combat also and then we were looking to all the other majors, did some demo's and we were really looking for a major deal to get us some decent money, it's just one of these things where we just couldnt get what we wanted, and like Roadracer had been after us for about a year or so, we didn't really want to sign with them, this guy was like telling us it wasn't in our best interests but we thought y'know if we sit around any longer, there's going to be nothing happening, no one really talking about us anymore, so we went ahead and signed with Roadracer and did a record and it's been out for almost 2 months now,it's doing pretty well, so that's why we're out here promoting the record.

IS IT ALL THE SAME PEOPLE AS BEFORE?

There's a few different people, we have a different bass player, and a different drummer but the drummer actually left the band after the first album, the bass player joined just after the second album, we'd been looking for a bass player for some time now but y'know sometimes it's really hard to find the right guy, so we had the bass player from Blind Illusion on the second album, and Doug played bass on a few songs also but basically worked together, then we met Randy a few months later we had some auditions and we said that's the guy y'know.

SO HAVE YOU CHANGED MUCH FROM THE FIRST ALBUM COZ WE HAVEN'T HEARD THE NEW ONE?

Well, you'll have to hear it for yourselves, it's very different but there's a few things that we did on there... I don't know if you've got the CD of "Breaking The Silence"?

NO..

Well on the CD there was a track on there called Heathen that we never finished and the management gave permisson to the record label to put that on as a bonus track, it was OK but we weren't really

HEATHEN

happy with it, or the whole album as it happens, but we re-wrote some of the parts of it and did a new version of it. it was on the demo too..we did the full version of it and it came out pretty cool.

There's a lot of different things on it. the production on it's incredible if I do say so myself, the songs that's for other people to judge or dislike it or not, we're happy with it.

HAS THE ALBUM BEEN RECIEVED REALLY WELL COZ I'VE NOT REALLY HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT IT?

Yeah,..in the States and in Europe, like the first one built a good foundation but that was all, but it still sold like 15,000 20,0000 but we didn't manage to get over here, not because we didn't want to,..that's why the first thing we did with this album was to come to the UK and Europe, it's great, we're playing to like 1000 to 5000 every night, hopefully it'll make some difference but we're just opening, we don't get a good sound or like ANYTHING but we just come out and put on the best show we can, thrash out and try to be energetic, what it sounds like we just put that behind us because we're not headlining when we are it'll be perfect but as it is we just go for the rawness really.

IT SEEMS OVER HERE THAT A LOT OF BAND'S ARE GOING TOWARD'S A DEATH METAL TYPE OF THING BUT YOU'RE STILL VERY MUCH A BAY AREA THRASH BAND, DON'T YOU THINK MAYBE YOU MISSED THE BOAT WITH BAY AREA THRASH?

I think that that's going along, there's a lot of death metal bands coming out and there's a lot of funk metal bands coming out, but that doesn't really bother us because we like what we do and we're not going to follow any trend, we're just picking up where we left off and we're going to proceed in our own way..But I mean Metallica are bringing out their new record any time now and it ain't no death metal or funk metal! People are going to go "Wow, OK!" I think it's going to wake people back up to what metal's really about, and I definately think it's going to make a big difference in the trends, I mean as far as death metal goes, that's just a label, if you don't have good vocals they call it death metal, and that darkness thing, it's already been done before over and over and over and like the vocalists keep getting worse and worse but it's OK because it's death metal, fuck it, it's metal, it's all metal, you can call it what you want, if you want to give yourself a label, we don't wanna do that, I mean next album we might go completely classical or something, we'll do it because we want to not because it's a trend, it matters to us what kids like to some respects but we're not going to let anyone tailor us, we do what we like,

ARE YOU EXCITED ABOUT THESE U.K. DATES?

Oh,. . .well I don't know what's happening in England really, all I do know is that there was a lot of kids out there who were into Heathen because they were all at the front, and that makes me feel good because it's our first show here and it's important to us to be good here y'know. we're just coming out every night and doing our best and some people are going to hate it, some people are going like it but I think we come across with a lot of energy and it doesn't matter whether you like death metal or whatever metal it just has to be good and if you come across in an energetic way the kids are gonna get into it, that's the way I see it.

WHAT KIND OF LYRICAL APPROACH HAS THIS ALBUM GOT THEN?

Well I mean it's.. I've done interviews so many times and they all ask me about the songs and it really, I really like it when people don't ask me that because I like people to read them and hopefully understand them in their own mind so if I described them to you it takes the imagination away if I give you all the answers.. the songs on this album, there's a lot of really heavy stuff, it was a really heavy time for us over the last few years between records and the songs reflect that, the albums called "Victims of Deceptions" and some of the songs reflect that too. Y'know in certain situations people become victims of deception due to like some of those really heavy religious cults where people just want to take your money but peole follow they don't have their own backbone it's just like sheep being led to the slaughter, y'know there's a song about that kind of an idea, the song "Opium the Masses" is kind of a song that deals with the concept of the everlasting conquest of power you always hear, it was lennon who said that religion is the opium of the masses which is where the idea came from, it's pretty heavy,.. but yeah, we just thought wait a minute that's just picking up on one group, polititions, everyone is always reaching for that pot of gold and treading on everyone on the way up, that was the idea that power is the opium of the mases,that's what the songs about.

(tape run's out, comes back in talking about political song's)

I think if you've got an opinion on something, political or whatever, you can write a song about it, it doesn't matter if you write a song about it..(the tape takes political action and fuck's up)

comes back in talking about punk..

I love hardcore , I like a lot of really punky stuff like GBH, Fang, Black Flag, I love all that stuff, I think that what's happening is a few years ago a lot of bay bands started crossing over and the punk thing kind of fizzled out so, there's not much punk bands still doing it, the only bands I really know who are still doing it are like the Exploited maybe and the Cro Mags,

There's no way you can tell what kids are going to wanna listen to, they're just going to listen to whatever they want, the same as I do, so I think it's important that as a band you just do what you do and there's going to be some fan out there for it, as long as you're happy doing what you're doing, y'know as long as you enjoy it, as long as it lets out the agression that you need to let out, it's like, I have a good time up there but it's not like sitting at the beach y'know!! I'm like sweating and I'm shouting and it's very aggressive but it serves the purpose of letting something out of me that needs to be let out y'know, like the kids, and it's like death metal, there's going to be a lot of good metal bands come out of that... I mean Slayer they're kind of a death metal band and thay're getting so much better..

WELL SEPULTURA HAVE PRETTY MUCH COME OUT OF DEATH METAL

Y'see that's the thing, Sepultura they're just like a metal band, thrashy type band but the vocal's are really raunchy so everyone just says "oh that's death metal" I mean this guy couldn't even speak english on their first three albums so it just kind of came out that way.. I wasn't that big a fan of Sepultura before this tour, I mean I didn't dislike them or anything it just wasn't my thing, but since the tour I've gotten to know

Death By Demo

Just sitting around, a few friends, a few beer's? Well watch out coz DEMO'S CAN KILL!!

You want your blood, sweat and tears torn to shred's? Then send us your demo and we'll uncerimoniosly slaughter it!! Only kidding, we try our best to be nice but remember: we are servents of Satan and cannot be held responsible for any harsh comments fed to us by the master of darkness!!!
Send your tapes (all styles are welcome) to: Death By Demo, c/o 54 Carleton Rd, Pontefract, W. Yorks, WF8 3NF, U.K. You get a free copy of the issue it's in.

GOMORRAH

GOMORRAH:"Embryonic Stages" demo. 3/5

Gomorrah are a 5 piece thrash band from Berkshire who've been around for about a year. They've all peviously been in local bands such as Bad Influence, Lethargy, The Loveless. They say their influences are Metallica, Slayer, Rush, Death Angel, Atheist, Heathen and more.
This is their first demo's and it shows...not that it's bad, quite the opposite but Gomorrah haven't really caught the art of songwriting yet.Still,on the tape there's 3 trax of powerful thrash with a cutting guitar sound. The vocals take a bit of getting used to, as with most vocalists who are different in some way. The rhythm section is very strong as all in all with a few more powerful riffs and togetherness Gomorrah could very well be onto something big.
Since recording the tape the band have toured extensively with Atom God,(and blown them away!!), which will have tightened them up considerably.I'm eagerly awaiting a second tape full of power. I know Gomorrah have got it.
Added bonus is that drummer Athol's dad is singing star Vince Hill and Athol apparently behaves in true rich kid drop out style by getting into trouble for smoking pot at their
Well, if the music doesn't grab you maybe the cool points will.
To get your three tracks of "psychotic thrash", known to the lay man as "Embryonic Stages" send £1.50 to:
GOMORRAH,
11 Gainsborough Hill,
Henley on Thames, OXON,
RG9 1ST. (NICK)

HELMS DEEP

HELMS DEEP:"Anthem For The Doomed Youth" demo 4/5

In general I believe in first impressions because in the past when I've ignored them I've gone down the wrong path, instinct's where it's at I reckon. However with Healm's Deep I've had to forget that completely, my first impressions were that it was going to be hippy, indie punk rubbish but when it actually comes on I was hit with a heavy grinding sound similar to AMEBIX/ AXEGRINDER. Then we get the vocals sounding reminissant of MEGADETH (spit!!), then a tune comes through, punching bass lines and shouted vocals!! A well wierd mixture that's definately got something likable about it. Originality, integrety, open mindedness and damn good tunes all coming together making a pretty fine band!!
The production sucks, it all seems a bit "10 pence" which is a real shame but doesn't have much of a downer on the whole thing.
Then we get "50 Years of Saturday Night", an aucoustic thing that really didn't do me any good, but y'know I can push a "F.Fwd" button, so I let 'em off.
BUT!! I'm afraid I have to knock a mark off for covering the dead Kennedys toon "Holidays". It's not good, and I'm afraid I've got a chip on my shoulder when it comes to anything Jello Biafra's involved in. A shame "Helm's Deep" have to cop it instead of him but it's a cruel world.
Apart from that it's a well cool tape, worth bothering to send for I reckon. "Helm's Deep" are definately worth keeping an eye on!!! (NICK)
It costs £1(inc. p+p) from Ace, 44 Vandiemans Rd, WOMBOURNE, WOLVES, STAFFS.WV5 0BE.

MORTIFIED

MORTIFIED:"DRIVEL" 3/5

There are two sides to the Mortified sound. The first is doomy Metally punk, not my usual cup of tea but I did like it. It was hard and heavy and very grungy. The drums are quite tight and heavy and the guitar and bass worked well together, creating a driving sound which shows promise. They are noisy, directional and very brit sounding. The vocals are very punk gruff and angry and fit in with the overall sound.

However I'm not the greatest fan of their hippy songs. Yeah, I hate hippies and all their associated bullshit. Mortified have on their demo a couple of hippy songs with their prdictable dronny out of tune girly vocals and turgidy (un)tuney slow (beatless) music with a folky type flute bit. Uugh!.

Besides the hippy stuff it's a pretty good tape with good quality productin.

To get hold of a copy send £1:60 to: Aphid, 3 Jerrard Close, Honiton, DEVON, EX14 8EF. (RUTHLESS)

THE REIGN

THE REIGN:"Acts of Pennance" demo 5/5

The REIGN formed out of the band "Vox Populi" in early January 1991. They immediately got into new material and practised like hell.

"Acts of Pennance" is the first demo although you'd never guess it as the super - professionally played music holds together in a far superior way to 99% of the tapes we hear.

The 4 trax are all excellent slices of pure heavy thrash, sounding like Metallica, Frost and a whole heap of doom metal bands all piled into one. The guitars are heavy as hell, some heavy riffing mixed in with Kirk Hammet styled solo's. The guitarist seems to have the knack of laying what's needed, might sound daft but so many crap demo's are full of riffs that needn't be there, The Reign are innocent.

The drums and bass are there too, heavy in your chest and this is on a muffled sounding demo tape, I both fear and long the day The Reign record in digital sound.

What The Reign speciallize in isn't going to change the world,slow crunchy thrash with Tom G Warrior vocals and Kirk Hammet guitar playing, but maybe if there were more honest and proud heavy metal bands like The Reign there would be no need to change the world. (NICK)

Send £2 U.K./£2:50 Elsewhere to:
The Reign, 117 Alice Street,
South Shields,
Tyne and Wear,NE33 5PG.
Cheques payable to J.Cook.

MY DYING BRIDE

MY DYING BRIDE:"Towards the Sinister" demo. 4/5

My Dying Bride were formed in June 1990 by Aaron, Calvin, Andy and Rick. Their first demo was recorded after 6 months together and soon after this was released they were offered a single with French label Listenable (run by the guy who does Peardrop fanzine). From the sounds of it My Dying Bride could very well be pretty happening soon. The first single completely sold out rapidly, so much so that we never got hold of one!!

Shortly after the single was released My Dying Bride signed a 4 record deal with Peaceville (which is based in the same small town of Dewsbury!). This is kicked off with a 12" single that should be in the shops when you read this. It is apparently a one track 12", one half of the track "Symphonaire Infernus et Spera Empyrium" on each side. If part 1 of the track is anything to be believed it's a pretty epic Frost - esque piece that looks set to either spawn 1000's of 12 hour epic bands or bury he doom metal thing forever, whichever the track should create some waves!

Anyway, the tape... despite the gothy/arty titles of "Symphonaire Infenus et Spera Empyrium" on this demo My Dying Bride are pretty straight forward death/doom metal, very much like Paradise Lost with more speed parts. Other names that pop up as the tape goes on were Carcass and the mighty Deicide, all in all it's a pretty pleasing chugging thing with nasty vocals and a general evil sound.

Apparently the demo was recorded without a bass which accounts for the strange mix but more than anything makes me more eager to hear some of their stuff with a bass player!

The first L.P. is fully recorded as I write and probably in the shops by the time you read this, entitled "As the Flower Withers" it features 7 tracks (the CD has sneakingly got an extra track, "Erotic Literature") "The Bitterness and the Breavement", "The Forever People", "Vast Choirs" and "The Return of the Beautiful". The last track being 15 minutes long "the longest we've done up to date!" boasts Calvin.

My Dying Bride are doing some dates in Holland with the mighty Bolt Thrower in Feb, hopefully they'll be playing around the country after that so look out for 'em.

Luckily for those of us who crave slow dragging operatic metal My Dying Bride could very well be big and I for one hope so. (NICK)

For the demo Send £2 to:Andy, 169 Paley Rd, East Bowling, BRADFORD,BD4 7EP.

SPACE MONSTERS

SPACE MONSTERS:"Horrific Undead Skeleton's Move With Zap Action" fan club tape. 5/5

This is infamous monster rock band the "Space Monsters" first tape release and already they've been offered a record deal, so powerful is their nightmare noise. Songs such as "I've Got Monj On My Mind", "Evil Superman", "Master Of Helicopter's" speed through your brain. The guitar's wail hysterically, the drums pound spasmodically and the bass creates dangerous wall's of noise.

The Space Monsters aren't a comedy band, they are the Space Monster's.

£1:50 from Space Monsters, Box 32, 52 Call Lane, LEEDS, LS1 6DT. Space Monsters phoneline for up to date information: (0532) 785812

heads·up

The Activate tape machine chewed up our tape during the interview with Eddie from Head's Up and both tape and recorder have since gone to tape heaven. As I am not adept in the art of shorthand so I tried to scrawl down as much of what was said as possible, but I have since had to carry out major reconstructive surgery. Basically, in case I give the wrong impression, Eddie is an extremely cool guy, honest, fun and easy going and made me feel right at home back stage at the Marquee, where the interview took place:

Do you enjoy the Rock'n'Roll lifestyle?

"I don't drink much, I have no need because I am high on life. On this tour I've had my first cigarette and drunk more than I have in the rest of my life, but I'm not that interested."

What do you get off on then?

"Basket ball, chocolate chip cookies and sex."

Do you like American football?

"Not really, I much prefer to watch golf on the T.V., although I don't really like watching sport on T.V., I'd much rather be participating. I used to be a great fan of Lecrose when I was at college. My father's from Argentina and he thought I was a wimp because I couldn't play soccer well, because for him being from Argentia it was a matter of pride to be passionate about and good at soccer. In fact I was a soccer spaz because my co-ordination was atrocious."

Do you like living in New York?

"Wow, New York really knows how to live. If I was an alien and wanted to find out as much as possible when I landed on earth, New York would be the place to go. In New York there is so much, every thing there is can be found in New York, it's like it's the centre of gravity culturally and of business.. it's the epitomy of civilisation, it contains both the good and the bad, the pious and the decadent. But it's a pleasure to step out of New York for perspective. New York is particualy good if you're a visiter."

What do you think of Guns'n'Roses?

"I think Slash is cute,"

In the show it looked as though you where a big fan of Henry Rollins?

"I'm a reasonable Henry Rolins fan, as you can tell Dave's the real Rollins fan, he went to see him a Lopoloza but I didn't want to see him that badly."

What do you think of Madonna?

"I love Madonna, I would love to spend an hour alone in a candle lit bubble bath with her, drinking a bottle of wine together. Seriously though, I think she's amazing and I really respect her for who she is and all she's about."

The audience really seemed to enjoy the show?

"The girl's went mad for us after our Paris gig, you don't have to try and get a girl in Paris, but don't worry we didn't go for them, I've a girl friend and so I've no need. We're not an attitude band, we prefer to relate to our audience. We like it when the kids participate and when we see them dancing and enjoying themselves. We're in it for the music, not the show biz."

What would you most like to do in the world if you had a choice?

"I'd love to drive a car at the Decar Race, it's a very dangeous race but I love the cool clothes they wear, the goggles and all that shit. I think it'd also be really cool to do a gig in space."

How important is your music to you?

"It isn't the most important thing in my life, I think there is a higher spiritual plane to reach in life, by happiness and in other things such as being in love, and finding out about yourself."

What do you think about Buddism and other such beliefs?

"I recently read a book about all the religions of the world, the Buddism was the closest to my personal beliefs. But really religion turns me off, it's used to dupe the scared and the stupid. I prefer to find my own religion."

Do you have a dog?

"I used to have a pet paraqueet but she died, I was upset but I was also pleased that I didn't have to clean up after her anymore, and no more feeding her!"

What music do you like?

"I like honest bands. There's a few bands I'd really like to see, I haven't seen the Guns."

I have.

"Yeah?"

They were shit.

"I haven't seen Ned's Atomic Dustbin, REM or Prince either, I'd realy like to see them live. Oh and Paul McCartney doing his aucoustic Beatles set, I'm a big Beatles fan."

What do you think of our Royal Family?

"I don't really think about them at all, but it's fascinating to see the social development which allows the royal family to exist today. I think Princess Diana is cute and think she should get a divorce and I think if she does decide to leave Charlie she should give me a call."

What are your ultimate ambitions or goals life?

"I have a tremendous amount of goals. I'd love to have a family, in a big house. My girlfriend, who comes from an old famous rich New England family wants a whole bunch of kids, but I think there're too many people in the world at the moment and she doesn't realise how much work ten kids would be. I would rather have one or two.

"I'd love to try that bungy jumping, that's where you tie a rubber rope around your middle and jump from a height. I would also love to explore the amazon rain forest, do things like that."

What do you think of animal rights?

"I'm not realy into animal rights, I think in nature there's a natural order. Society is an unnatural environment so there're many reasons for not eating meat because it's not necessary, but that doesn't necessarily mean that it's not right to eat meat. In the natural order we're hunters and gathers that kill animals. The real problem is over population."

Did you like the new LP?

"I reckon that Duke was one of the best LP's of the year (I have to say that I agree with you there Eddie), Duke took only one month to arrange, rehearse and record. We worked by recording all the tracks live in the studio except a couple of the guitar solo's. I believe it's got motion.

"A lot of bands get a lot of hype and are pushed into the public eye before they're ready, often they're not ready because it takes

MORE HEADS UP!

years to be great, and then the record company drops them. Have you hard of Firehose?"

Yeh.

"Great band, but I can see it happening to them. Sometimes a good band wont get the exposure they deserve or to the top, like Firehose, but they are still a good band and not drivative of anything else which is vital for the music and culture. The right time and place often have more to do with making it, than talent."

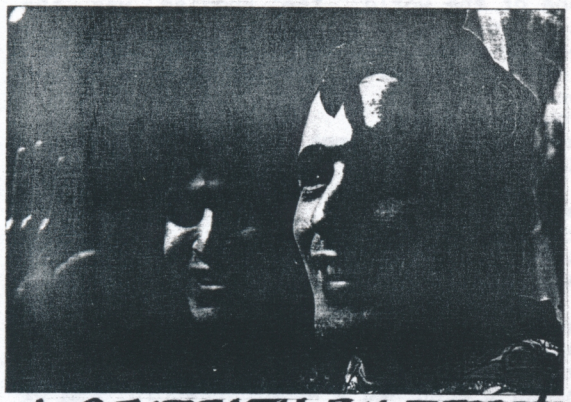
Do you want to make it big?

"Naturally I want more, but as long as we're happy and keep changing and growing, slowly now, then we can be great."

Last words?

"Hopefully we'll be back in April and hopefully we'll have a new album out by then."

I'd like to say thanx to Eddie for doing the interview, and to Sophie and Roadrunner for arranging it.



MORE DEATH BY DEMO!

DAVID LA DUKE :"Ball Bustin Guitar Rock"/"Have Rock Will Travel" demo's

David La Duke rocks!! Forget Guns'n Roses, forget Godflesh, jeezus forget everything coz David has the rock!!!! Both these tapes arrived on my birthday which was cool, I must admit they sounded a lot better that night after a big steak and countless beers but even now there's something attractive about these tapes.

I guess La Duke falls somewhere between a crap Hendrix and a good AOR band. Reading through the press handouts I began to get the feeling La Dukes been at it in bars for years and is a bit of a strange bugger but the world would be a much worse place without him.

Between the two tapes there's some neat solo's, a couple of OK tunes but a lot of filling space too I'm afraid. There's worse people making money in rock'n roll and if it was David La Duke or Nirvana being burnt at the stake David would come away smiling but these tapes still don't really set my soul afire.

He rocks, but something's missing, but still worth getting hold of, write to,

David La Duke,PO Box 58368, Lou. KY 40268, 0368, U.S.A. (NICK)

MAYCON:"Raw Diamonds" demo tape 1/5

This tape's really odd! It's very metal, in every way, titles such as "Baby" "Coke" "Suck My Dick" through to "Demon King". It's really.. strange, Maycon seem to be a really diabolocal band who are a cross between all the worst metal bands ever, from horrific german thrash metal to repulsive Scandinavian glam all in a matter of minutes. What's even more ridiculous is that I really love this tape!!! "Demon King" and the tragic "Crazy Rock n Roll" are really cool to listen to, maybe it's even crueler to actually like Maycon than to pass them off as rubbish, I don't know but I for one would rather hear this tape than one of the countless bad but not bad enough speed metal demo's or another crap punk band with hippy girly anarcho vocals that sound a bit mystic, at least you can sing along to Maycon, and how can't you like a band with lines like "I am the lord of Hades" then the next song being"we wanna party all night long" all sung in the worst American accent you'll ever fucking hear!!

Bad News aint got nothing on Maycon. (NICK)

Raw Diamonds is available for a blank tape plus postage from: MAYCON, c/o Per - Inge P. Liset, Sjovegen 10, 6200 Stranda, NORWAY.

Thrash Forward

THRASH FORWARD: "THRASH FORWARD" 5/5

Thrash forward have had a slight line up change since this tape was made, Terry Humbert's vocals have been changed for those of Ken Elkinton, formally of Roadrunners Defiance (on their first album that is). The rest of the band are Dan Enguld on drums, Bill Cook on guitars and Lonny Lommis on bass.

The sound of Thrash Forward is very speed, very thrash and very Metal, as they insist in their titles and lyrics, such as: "Speed Death & Destruction", "Speed Metal Hell" and "Death Night" among others. The guitars are sharp, loud and prominant and there is a profusion of dudey solo's. The bass is stirring and angry and the drums are speedy and power crazed and the vocals are angry and raw. The music really fits together with a tight sound which is well vibrant and ass kicking.

The production is excellent. A particullaly good tape well worth tracking down, the price is $6 worldwide or $5 if you are reading this in the U.S. (hi!), and the address to send your dough to is: Thrash Forward, P.O. Box 695, Tacoma, WA. 98401, USA. (RUTHLESS)

PYATHROSIS

PYATHROSIS: "Fields of Unceasing Death" demo 4/5

Dutch death metal band Pyathrosis have got something good, they're not completely there in terms of professionalism with the sound etc. but it's together, driving heavy and memorable death metal. So many demo's have so little direction, Pyathrosis have. 5 trax with lovable titles such as "Slithery Flesh", "Drowning Souls" and "Eradicated Evil" on this their second demo, all pretty similar slow griding death with some fast parts thrown up every now and again. The only complaint is that the trax are a bit long and samey, the riffs not quite punchy enough and they need some serious production improvment to stop them sounding so garage band - ish.

Otherwise, Pyathrosis are a well decent death band and I urge you to check them out! (NICK)

"Fields of Unceasing Death" costs $6 or Hfl 10- (P+P inc) from:

Wiebe v/d Veen, Goudenregenplantsoen 5, 2404 EH Alpen a/d Rijn, THE NETHERLANDS.

DAMAGE: "Life Is Cheap" 1/5

Tuney hardcore. I must admit I couldn't give a sideways shit about tuney hardcrap, especially Lemonheads rip off's (including) the Lemonheads). Energetic, sort of. Like most tuney hardcore I've heard those guitar riffs somewhere before, I've heard that bass before, those bubblegum lyrics and that damn insipient drumming in every fucking sad assed D.C. type hardcore band before, and they were fucking boring first time around. Teen angst for 25 year old's still living at home with their mum and dad. No address. (RUTHLESS)

'A BEGINNERS GUIDE TO ANAL CUNT':
THE 5,643 WORD MANUAL, EXCERPT'S FROM.

Originally this material was meant to be put out as a publication in it's own right, "A Beginners Guide To Anal Cunt", but that 's been delayedu ntil mid Summer '92, so just to wet your appetite's we thought we'd give youe a sneak preview at some excerpt's from the "5,643 Word Manual: A Beginners Guide To Anal Cunt"

The world's just fucking full of people who really give a shit about stupid assole things and yet they haven't ever heard Anal Cunt... How is this? Before Anal Cunt life meant nothing, I didn't give a flying buggery (unless I was asked nicely) but now my life has a very big meaning, it now has a 7" disc with 5,643 songs on and man that's GOOD.They give us hope because thay have the answers to the questions all these shit - case punk bands have been asking .. "Why?" Coz they don't mean a damn fucking thing but damn good toonz and ton's of 'em.

THE ANAL CUNT INTERVIEW

Anal Cunt are the gods of destruction, they've released various 7"'s full of toons, the greatest being the "5,643 song EP". It seems they now have a 6,000 song CD out but I've no details on that. Rumour has it that vocalist Seth has joined a reformed Siege, which could very well spark off the 3rd World War we're all looking for, here's an interview I did with them a fair while ago...

Why do Anal Cunt exist, is it a concept or are you just having fun?

Seth: I formed the band because I was in other blurcore bands and they started to get musical, so I wanted to start a totally noisy, unmusical band. Around that time I thought of the name Anal Cunt and I thought it would be perfect for the band I wanted to do. It was one of the funnier names I came up with. I made up lots of band names, many even more brutal than Anal Cunt,but Anal Cunt was the only one that ever accomplished anything. The band did start as a total joke, but as time went on we started taking it more seriously, serious in a way that we were serious about trying to be as noisy and horrible as possible.

Have you recieved many problem's with the name? Why pick it?

Seth:Not really, but a couple of labels said they'd like to put something out by us, if it wasn't for the name and I can't book a show under the name Anal Cunt so most of the time we go by A.C. I like the name because most American's get easily offened and it's fun to irritate people who take thing's too seriously.

Is there much further you can go with Anal Cunt? As it is your sound seems to have reached it's boundries?

Not much further. We intend on breaking up at the end of April 1990 after our tour of Germany. We don't want to progress musically and we don't want to do the same thing forever. A lot of our "fans" don't understand this and can't see why we would break up. However, if you listen to our 5,643 song 7" you'll notice we did kind of go past the boundries of other records.

Is the U.S. punk movement as fashion conscious as it seem's by reading Flipside or Maximum Rock N Roll?

I never read Flipside but people in all the "scenes" I've seen are so fashion conscious it's disgusting. I know a couple of "overnight" skinhead's who "had" to buy Doc Martin's, suspender's and flight jacket's or they wouldn't be accepted by all their generic skinhead pals. Anal Cunt don't belong to the Boston scene and most people probably never heard of us. We've never played a show around our area that people in "the scene" would go to but we don't care,I wouldn't want people to like us around here. I wouldn't mind playing one "scene" show because I know everyone would hate us if we played with one of these generic scene band's,like the Wrecking Crew,who I think are one of the worst most boring bands I've ever heard. Lot's of times I won't go to show's because the people who go are so trendy and generic that I'd get irritated by their presence. The sad part is, they all think they're original and individuals while they are all wearing the exact same clothing, boot's etc.

Do you enjoy where you live? Do you think your surroundings affect your life and Anal Cunt in a big way? Would you like to move?

Mike: My surroundings affect my life because right now I have no privacy and the only thing's I have going for me are Anal Cunt and my job.

Tim: I like where I live. It affects me because I have a very bitchy mother, but I enjoy my area and my friends.

Seth: I like where I live but it's too expensive around here and I'm alway's totally broke.

What's your greatest fear? What scares you most, life or death?

Tim: My greatest fear is moving out of the comfort's of home with my family. I don't like my mother but I'm afraid to take responsibility.

Mike: My greatest fear is the unknown.

Is Anal Cunt relevant to life and death or is it a mere pastime?

Seth:Anal Cunt has no message or anything, it's just something for someone to listen to or watch at a show. Some band's who have something to say would be relevant I suppose, as long as they're sincere about it.

How do you wanna change yourself?

Seth:I like myself. The only thing I don't like about myself is lazyness.

Mike: I like myself and I wouldn't change anything.

Tim: I like myself too, but I'd like to change my fear of responsibility.

MORE "ANAL CUNT" THIS WAY ↗

Are you interested in people? What about friends?
Seth: I like people but I'm really shy so I have problem's talking to people I don't know.
Mike: Friendship's are really difficult because you never know when mood's are going to change. But by sticking with it you can understand a friend.

What's the dumbest thing you've ever done?
Mike: Shave my head and drink a litre of vodka.
Tim: Taking a shower at Mike's house and getting athlete's foot which later turned into a crotch infection.
Seth: I've done so many dumb thing's I don't want to say anything because later I'll think of something even more stupid than that.

Do you find death funny?
Mike: I find it funny when it happen's to someone who deserves it.
Tim: The band, yes.
Seth: Death were funnier when Kam Lee was in the band and they used to say scary thing's inbetween song's.

Write something and say g'bye!
Seth: Well, by the time this comes out we will have broken up. We still have copies of the 5,643 song 7" for sale and we're recording our final 7" in March (1990 that was). Write for details. After we break up we'll still be selling the new EP, also T -shirt's. Thanx Nick for a good interview with different non generic questions that's unlike other interviews we've had. Bye!

Write to us at: Seth Putnam, 51 Warwick Rd, Newton, MA 62165, U.S.A. Please don't put Anal Cunt on the envelope!!

ANAL QUOTES...

all quotes express opinions held by the quotee and are not neccessarily the opinions of the editorial staff.

Infamous anarcho turkey, "Lord of all doggy doo" Al Autonomy has no opinion, but here it is:
"Anal Cunt" as a name/phrase is contradictory and meaningless and is not offensive for that reason alone. Word's like "cunt" can be offensive but then it's only an area of human anatomy and there's nothing offensive about any part of the human body - male or female. If I called you a right fingernail would you be offended? Right then!"
Reviewers opinions; smug, self satisfied and altogether, a distasteful quote. Al invites the labels "penis" "testes" and "shit squeezing tube".
Dr. Seuss says-
"Anal Cunt are what no one else is, could be or even want to be. My early comics (from the period after I left Judge magazine as house illustrator) are very similar to the band - they are rebellion."

"They make life 101% wilder than the wildest turkey, with more beam han any Jim, and boy, do they Jack in a dandy daniel style" anon.

Ozzy Hughes (Grandson of the late genus inventor, and eccntric billionaire Howard Hughes, famed for his incredible paronoia, and his refusal to cut his hair or fingernails. He also invented a wooden air-o-plane which was so large that a game of football could be played upon it's wings)
"I am familiar with the music of Anal Cunt and feel close to the band, very very close to them. I feel that we are alike in many ways."

Look out for the 5,643 Word Manual, packed with Anal Cunt facts. Available soon kids!!

HEATHEN

their songs more, got to know them, how they are on stage and everything and it's cool, I still can't understand what Max is singing half the time but the emotion he puts across and it's very metal, I don't think it's really death metal at all..
I mean they were really young when they did the first album so of course it's raw, but they've improved immensley, the new album's great, "Arise", I love it.
Y'know it's like the bands that improve are the bands who are really into it, they're going to get better, it's going to be refined, they're not going to want to be stuck in death metal, they wont want to be defined as death metal, once they start getting good it's going to be like we want to do this! we want to expand, which you do, you want to play in front of as many people as you can.. unless you're really anti that and want to play small clubs all your life because that's what you want to do, but.. Heathen is like, I think we're a lot of good musicians putting a band together and trying to write the best songs possible and trying to come across with a lot of energy and we've been doing really well, on this tour with Sepultura we're doing really well, we've been going down well in France, Spain and especially Germany.
...this was like the worst show for problems and stuff, but the worst show was Amsterdam where everyone was like (does an impression of deadheads) , must have been stoned or something. We did some really great shows though, like this open air thing 2 days ago, it was really cool, Candlemass played, Sabbat, no not Sabbat, Skyclad, you heard them,..
NO..
The singer from Sabbat, with a couple of guys, that's his kind of project thing at the moment called Skyclad.., anyway we got to talk with them for a little while, they were supposed to be here tonight,..
ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO SAY...
I've said too much already....
WE THEN WENT ON TO CHAT ABOUT METALLICA ("They crush anyone") TOURING, THE 4th OF JULY, LIFE AND DEATH AND HAVING A GOOD TIME, SPANISH KIDS BEING MENTAL AND OTHER SUCH SHIT. A PRETY DECENT GUY AND A GOOD BAND‹ IF YOU LIKE THRASH, CHECK 'EM OUT. THANKS FOR THE TIME AND THANKS TO THE AMAZING SOPHIE FROM ROADRACER FOR SORTING IT ALL OUT!

HORROR: tape
Since the inception of this "supergroup" in late 1991 HORROR have been creating quite an undercurrent buzz, never quite revealing themselves, just slithering around in dark alleys. This tape says a lot about the future of Heavy Metal Rock'n'Roll and how it's about to be smashed into life.
HORROR don't deal with much other than being Heavy and being good, but unlike a lot of Heavy bands in this day and age, HORROR have got foresight and reason..
Blazing guitar licks are in danger of creating serious damage to mental health if they ever get near civilised society, whereas the pumping bass and Bill Ward-esque drumming are a formidable power base that devastates anything in it's path. The mixture of scathing guitar and tank like rhythm section should have everyone in the music world shitting their pants at the oncoming beast that is HORROR.
No material is yet available but as soon as it is we'll let you all know. (NICK)

Live 'n' Dead

BLACK CROWES : 3/5

The Black Crowes have had an amazing amount of good press over the past year and it sounded as though they were going to be a good shit kicking ol' southern Rock'n'Roll band. So I was pleased that as well as getting to see the gods of Rock Metallica I would also get to see this band that I had read so much about and heard nothing of.

It mustn't be easy being the first band on at Donnington and they started out well, catching the interest of the sun drunk and beer soaked lazing audience. They were both Rocking and Heavy, however their southern ease and potential Rock star status spoilt their music. They seemed to forget that they were the first in the line up at a star studded stadium show not a big Rock band doing a small club gig and they began to play more strung out riffs and the like. They were very good but the audience wanted something more immediate and catchy and I have to admit so did I! Having never heard them before (as I expect many others hadn't from their reactions) I couldn't really be expected to appreciate their less Rock out and improvised moments.

They were good maybe too good. Donnington is more a setting for the Motley Crue type rabble rousing than the intricate Rock'n'Roll of the Black Crowes. Still it was a good show and I did enjoy it. (RUTHLESS)

QUEENSRYCHE : 1/5

I wasn't looking forward to Queensryche's set having completely gone off them since the bullsville-can't ever be arsed to remember the name follow up to the once good but now tainted "Operation Mindcrime". Anyway, we were dragged (foraged) down to the front by our 2 Donnington dude pals to see the set. Ready with grumpy faces and whinging voices we stood there looking as pissed off as possible hoping to make everyone around us miserable too and I was actually quite surprised as they seemingly had a certain amount of energy and BALLS for the first couple of songs but I'm afraid they soon castrated themselves and swiftly bored me to tears. I gradualy fell further and further back into the crowd and ended up looking up at the fascinating scaffolding ring that held up the speakers! "Clever them scaffolders" I said to an intrigued Ruthless as Queensryche got further up their own arses. All of a sudden I realised I'd lost 10 minutes and was now sitting in the sun eating a delicious burger with mustard and onions, still the band bored on.

BUT I thought I must pay attention, it's always the fucking same isn't it, as soon as you try again they just have to kick you in the guts. Queensryche's blow was playing the dull dull anthem of dullness "Silent Lucidity" that was it. I had an arch enemy of the day band for being so fucking serious, boring and pretentious. They sucked. They are the scum we know as Queensryche. (NASTY NICK)

MOTLEY CRUE : 5/5

If the Crue are not the most infamous Rock'n'Roll band alive then they're fucking goddamn close. What with the drugs, the sex, the booze and one dead Razzle (RIP) to their name.

they may not be the most technically proficient musicians in the world. however they do know how to put a fuck of an ace show on for their fans. and what a rocking show Donnington was. Tommy Lee ran all over the stage first to show himself off to the people. then Mick Mars and Nikki Sixx advanced onto the stage ready to Rock and last but with no less egotistically Vince Neil ran out to the awaiting crowd and the show began. They strutted and posed, teasing the crowd (which was packed with Crue fans) mercilessly throughout the set. Playing a good range of their ten year long career classics. starting with "Kickstart My Heart" they raged through such numbers as "Smoking in the Boys Room", "Girls, Girls, Girls" and finally their version of "Anarchy in the U.K."

It was a great show and although normally I wouldn't pay to see them I'm glad I did coz it was great fun. (ROCKIN RUTHLESS)

METALLICA : 5/5

Following Motley Crue was I suppose a real hard job as far as Rock'n'Roll attitude goes but a piece of piss in the musicianship stakes! Well, Metallica could do it with their hands tied behind each others backs (Which maybe they will do as part of their revolving stage with people in all sorts of strange places stage set).

Anyway, back to the show. the excitment waiting for them was incredible we were all in awe as we waited for the true lords of all Metal to hit the stage. Having not seen Metallica since their last Donnington appearance I was really shitting myself with excited desperation... then out they came with "Enter Sandman" and life was great until some cunt smashed me in the face and I passed out during "Creeping Death" but I was back (quite a bit further back actually) a little dazed and confused but still Rocking.

The band apparently hadn't noticed my smash (bastards!) and were storming through the show. They seemed to have simplified things down, even the older stuff and it was sounding far punchier, nothing getting lost in the mix which I reckon is great! By now we were upto new song "Sad But True" and I shat myself once more at the prospect of buying the new CD.

A couple of crap jokes were told (I mean really crap, they may be genius of metal but the comedy routine's gotta go) and then we were hearing all our old fav's in the new punchy mode. "Master...", "One", "Whiplash", "Seek and Destroy", "For Whom..." and yes we got the Misfits classic "Last Caress". They looked well pleased with themselves, and so they should have done because they'd made my day knocking out all the classic Metallitunes.

Then they left and we all grinned like buffoons and praised the lord satan for our blessed Metallica. (NICKALLICA)

AC/DC : 5/5 HEADLINERS

AC/DC ROCKED TO FUCK

SEPULTURA : Rock City Nottingham : 5/5

Unfortunately although the Activate crew arrived well in time we missed both the Sacred Reich (although I did see the last number and they Rocked) and Heathen sets as we were in the depths of the Rock City basement interviewing "the stars" and generally hanging out, so take a squizz at the relevant pages for all the up to date gossip and dirt on those wild guys of Rock Sepultura and Heathen. However we did get to indulge in the main attraction and chorin' they mainline.

Awesome. Amazing and Fucking Ace. Sepultura invaded the stage with the swift assured energy of the stars they are and proceeded to set, with a vice like grip of pure thrash they held the Rock City under their deadly spell. Even with ten pints "bustin' the shit outta your bladder" you couldn't leave for just one leak (serious compliment time).

As Igor beat his way to cult worship, Max threatened over the swaying masses gutturally. Andreas riffed the audience to a nice creamy orgasm and Paulo, uniquely Paulo assaults what is left of our sensibilities and ears with his bass battery.

An amazing show that left me and my two fellow thrash companions wanting, NEEDING more. SEPULTRA FOR Donington. If the rumours are to be believed the organisers are in no fear of immediate and untimely demise. (RUTHLESS)

POISON IDEA : 5/5 / PLEASANT VALLEY CHILDREN:5/5 NEWPORT

P.V.C

This unfortunately now deceased punk Rock band kicked the show off to a killing start. As is often the case for a non-local support band the audience were uninterested and unenthusiastic, but they kicked Newport right up it's lazy shit hole and made them fuckers Rock out. It was their farewell performance and ironically probably their best (or so I gather from my own and other people's experience of PVC). Particuallally fine performances were provided by the bassist Pete McKenna (formerly of Goodnoise fame) and guitarist Monkey who hit off each other brilliantly providing what appeared to be spontaneous bursts improvisation material, and not forgetting Pig Havoc who wrought violent justification on their performance with an energy and style all his own.

This may've been their last gig but there was no boredom or antimosity present, just good hard punk Rock. The good news is the guys are all involved in other projects! I know Rich is involved with "Horror", if you haven't heard of them yet do so coz they're out of this fucking world.

POISON IDEA

After P.V.C. left the stage there was a buzz of anticipation as we awaited the Kings of Punk. And they didn't disappoint any of my illusions of what they'd be like. They were pissed, they were mean, they were angry and they were fucking Rocking. When they came on the crowd went wild and stayed wild and they got wilder as the night went on! The atmosphere had ever reached the outer edges of the gig where the die hard pessimist's and the constantly disappointed live and infect the air, even they had a good time, even they raved about the Kings of Punk.

These guys coviously eat sleep and shit punk Rock'n'Roll, they were agressive and mean. They rammed each number more and more violently into yer brain until even heavy drinking couldn't stop the pain. The audience Rocked out into such a frenzy that the less tank built of us couldn't reach the front. One idiot got so over excited that he

pissed Jerry A off by trying to grab for his mike and generally acting like a complete moron. So what could the big guy do but offer the geek the fight he so richly deserved. Contrary to the usual senario of the big star asking the jerk off for a fight after the show , giving the jerk off time to wimp out, Jerry prefered the more direct approach and jumped off the stage and took the twat outside for a good pasteing with his army of fans following, not wanting to miss the first splatter of blood. Needless to say that I was right behind and Jerry is everybit as hard as he looks.

Sadly I like many others missed their other Brit. dates, however I intend to get to as many as possible of their next tour (May time) and would advise the same to anyone else who reckons they're a Rock out fucker to do the same. (RUTHLESS)

RAMONES 5/5 MANCHESTER ACADEMY

Unfortunatly the Academy is right next door to the university, I was worried that we were going to be over run by trendy indie pop studes, but I could'nt 'v been more wrong. The whole place was full of society rejects and dropouts, everyone there was a hard core Ramones fan.

HEY HO LETS GO! Their intro tape was the infamous toon from "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly".No ego problems for the Ramones, they know they're the best. They just walked on stage and blasted it to us. Johnny and CJ stood up on the amps and Rocked out, Marky was the only one who looked like he had to sweat, the others were just Ramones all the way through. It was an amazing and powerful show and they kept up the energy all the way through stopping every few songs for a breather. They included such classics as "Teenage Labotomy", "Blitzkrieg Bop", "Pet Cemetery", "Pinhead" and "Mamas Boy".

GABBA GABBA HEY! what a fucking ace gig. The atmosphere was ace and the band Rocking and cool and they played like bastards. (RUTHLESS)

LAST OF THE VINYL KIDDIES..(Sorry to crush it all in like this but we're fucked for space)

FEEDTIME:"Suction" LP Vinyl Solution.4/5

An Aussie thrashy hardcore type of thing very much in the vein of Killdozer. They started out in 1979 with the aim of "making music which gives an exhilaration or high that makes you feel totally exhausted and totally fantastic". It doesn't make me feel totally exhauseted but it is an exhilirating album, with a throbbing bass, driving unrelentless drums and slidy lazy guitars to offset the rhythm. Unfortunately the vocals aren't powerful enough to appreciate the music.

The sound is very tight and at the same time silly and fun. They play around with tuneyness creating an original effect without resorting to the inanities and wackiness of indie pop rock. The Feedtime sound is very beach bum. An excellent record and probably the world's last chance to appreciate this much unheard of band. (RUTHLESS)

HEADBUTT: "Stomach Swab" Pigboy Records 0/5

Out on Pigboy records the press release promised so much but the record delivered so little. This is supposed to be a "collision of bass and relentless rhythm, born of three bass players and two percussionists, aided by a drum machine". It is relentless, relentlessly boring and relentlessly predictable, it goes on and on making no point at all other than that these boys completely lack any talent and that they live in the complete isolation of retro-soundland. "A stripping away of unecssary frivolity, like melody"(?)"leaving behind a guitarless world", sounds fun doesn't it? So all that's left is a continuous stream of dirge which leaves no impact, musical or otherwise.

Obviously this is a sad attempt at being an industrial band. I don't know where these kids have been for the last 10 years but wherever it was there hasn't been any industrial music infiltrating their ears. In the past decade industrial music has done more than make noise so that the musos responsible could run around like sweaty psuedo intellectual foundry workers. Headbutt like many other unfortunate lost souls looking for a new direction have hit upon indusrtrial as a quick and easy way to cred, without realising that that boat set sail without them years ago. (RUTHLESS)

FUDGE TUNNEL "SEX MAMMOTH" 4/5

A hairless dorkily bespeckled band from Nottingham who probably have a fetish for jellybeans. They may fit the usual discription of a British indie-subpop band Visually but their music is suprisingly fast and furious. This four track E.P. is also quite constant in quality. A throbbing Heavy bass line and a beat smashed out on the skins gives a hard sound which is overlaid by wildly distorted guitars.The vocals are dissappointing, they are too weak and not angry enough. The production has also suffered from the terminal cheap-punk- scared-of-too-much-bass disease.

I must admit that I was prejudiced towards Fudge Tunnel after reading an interview with them, they seemed like a typical wimpy nice boy band, but this E.P. has turned out to be a lot Heavier than imagined it would. It just goes to show "you shouldn't judge the music by the band".

DEICIDE:"DEICIDE" Roadracer 5/5

How anyone can not like Deicide and call themselves metal is beyond me.Deicide are the only true death metal band with any amount of success. Since Slayer stopped writing about satan and Possessed split up (soon to return, thank the lord) no one has been producing good, honest black metal apart from the Glen Benton led Deicide.

The songs are heavy as hell, without resorting to ridculous fast drumming and overly gruff vocals. Deicide write songs the way they were meant to be. Lyric's, the best, get a load of: "Three days to rise, If He lives again he is sure to die, I Killed Jesus, Just to see him bleed on his pulpis throne, I Am Evil, I'm the Deicide and I killed the lord, No more reasons, I Will Kill the World in another form."

Need I say more?

IOWA BEEF EXPERIENCE "GUILT AND REVENGE" 5/5 7"

Having come out of the bowels of Iowa city it's not suprising that the band have had to overcome hard times. Having been rescued from the loss of their former drummer by Bill.C a native snake handler and beat master, they then lost their singer Paul Neff to a tragic lab accident, which they luckily remedied by stealing Ethan R. from a home for disheveled children. The guitarist, Chris R. was recently asked to resign from the US forest service for alleged unnatural acts with small furbearing animals and was reported to have said "they're not furry everywhere". Meanwhile Chris' wife Simone, bass player, miraculously survived being carried 11 miles, in the bands transit van by a passing tornado. After having survived this freak outbreak of rare and tragic events only a cool assed motherfucker of a band would continue.

If this 7" is anything to go by this is one shit hot band. Coming from the same genre that brought us Killdozer and Helmet, they are raw, fast and HEAVY. The drums beat out a hard erratic and manical tattoo, over which the guitars groan and wail with more than a few moments of fine heavy riffing. The bass is vile and hard hitting and the vocals are sick and raw.

A band to get to know. Excellent.

CORROSION OF CONFORMITY: "Blind" Roadracer 3/5

The last COC disc that I bought was the fucking ace "Technocracy" so I couldn't wait to get this bastard onto the turntable and let rip. However I was disappointd to find they'd lost their distinctive originality which was so COC and so good. The music sounds disturbingly like Metallica in places and the vocals often stray into the domain of Motorhead. There's nothing wrong with bands who sound as though they've been heavily influenced, it's just a shame when it happens at to a band as individually exciting and with as much potential as Corrosion of Conformity.

Besides that it's a pretty ace album with loads of energy and some excellent riffing and some pretty hard skin bashing. I'd give it at least a 4/5 for its quality and energy but I'm going to give it 3/5 because COC can be more original than this. (RUTHLESS)

ENTOMBED: "Clandestine" Earache 5/5

The Activate team of intrepid journo's managed to get hold of an embossed sleave limited edition of this their latest release, and what a groovy cover it is, and the music is even acer.

They've managed to retain that distinctive guitar effect that so characterizes the sound of Entombed. This 5 piece Swedish death metal band really know how to cut death the rest of their genre. Clandestine is a really driving and powerful album, the guitars have some complex riffing which really melts into an overall sound and the solo's are well wally and distinctive. The bass really chuggs along biting into the rhythm and giving it the effect of driving speed, and the drums really pound along. An exciting album which also contains a bluesy energy which really lifts and emphasises the sound of Entombed.

This really is one excellent album which is well worth getting hold of.

HAZY HILL:"Murky Bedlam" demo 1 2/5

The flyer proudly boasted "speed metal for the '90's" which isn't a lie in as much as this is speed metal and it is the '90's. Never having been particullally hooked on speed metal of the 80's it was going to be a pretty hard deal getting my attention of it for the 90's but Hazy Hill tried valiantly but I'm afraid someting was lacking in their style which led them to failure.

The whole thing realy pisses me off because they have some good idea's, good melodies but absolutely no direction or songwriting ability and they really need it to hold the whole thing together. As it stands it sounds very thin and weak, reminiscant of lots of punk bands who heard speed metal and decided to become speed punk... and wasted a lot of vinyl resourses in the process.

It is Hazy Hill's 1st demo and shows some promise but there's also a big need for something other than speed to drag a good band out off this mish mash they're lost in. (NICK)

HAZY HILL, c/o Ufuk Onen. Hosdere Cad 55/11, 06540 Y.Ayranci, Ankara, TURKEY. $5 Europe, $6

ANGEL POWDER "BEYOND THE DECAY" 4/5

I'm begining to wonder whether French metal and music in general isn't more than a bit strange.That isn't to say that I'd dismiss it, infact I liked this tape because of its eccentric timing and it's driving, punchy, energetic, speed, thrash Metal sound.

The drumming is particually wild, its eccentric twist does not distort its underling powerful thrash style ,in fact it's the drumming which adds the original dimension and flavour to this band.The riffing is fast and furious with extensive and prolific soloing. The bass is Heavy and solid and supports the guitars and drums.Complex time changes add to the overall sound without making techno-proficient-bore metal.English lyrics make it easier on the ear us anglo-ignorants ,the vocals although pretty typical metal at the same time are strong.

An interesting and Metal tape,for those who want to sand money the price is 5$ for this cassete EP, to:DAVID LA DUKE <BOX 58368.LOU.KY 40268-0368 USA.(2 to 6 weeks for delivery (apparently)

THE STATE "CONTROL" -5/5

The Shite are a bunch of sad no hoper kids who sit in their bedrooms playing at being torchured artists. This tape is a diatribe of crap undancy dance music, ex-punks trying to be clever. A long winded psuedo-techno-arty handout came with the tape telling me in a numerous amount of ways to buy their other 20 tapes which going to be equally as shite. A complete load of bollox.(RUTHLESS)